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Notes and Comments

The Madras Suppression of Disturbances Bill

It is commonplace that public peace and order are basic conditions for progress. Whether in a family, community or country unless there is peace and order, progress is bound to suffer. The history of almost every country in the world bears ample testimony to this fact. The greatest strides in constructive fields of activity were possible only during periods of stable and solid peace.

The responsibility of maintaining this peace rests mainly with the State. Whatever be the nature or the composition of the Government, its responsibilities to maintain public peace and to afford protection to life and property has never been a moot point. The ancient and mediæval 'Police States' as well as the modern democratic state have alike shouldered this responsibility. Such responsibility is especially great at a time when conditions are not normal. Then the Government would find it difficult to combat subversive forces with the ordinary weapons in their legal armoury. They have necessarily to take extra powers in order effectively to maintain peace, and prevent disorder. The period following a big war is not generally a period, when conditions are normal. Mahatma Gandhi in his Autobiography has observed to the effect that it is a general practice for the State to be invested with extraordinary powers after a big war. His observation was made with reference to steps the South African Government took after the Boer War.

We are also witnessing the aftermath ... war and there is no denyin... conditions are abnorma...

It is in the light of this background, that we have to judge the Madras Suppression of Disturbances Bill, 1947. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill have made clear the circumstances under which the Government have been forced to take extra powers to ensure the maintenance of peace. The speech of the Hon'ble the Home Minister while introducing the Bill in the Assembly gives a lucid survey of the background as well as answers reasonable criticisms against the Bill. He has assured the public that the provisions of the Bill are not meant to be used against any particular party or individual. Considering the atmosphere in the country, in which forces of political and communal extremism are making insidious endeavours to assert themselves, the Government thought it necessary to arm themselves with necessary powers and had taken care to see that the Act would come into force only in such areas which are notified as disturbed areas. No Government, the Hon'ble Minister said, would be worth its name unless they have powers to put down in an emergent manner anything that might overtake them. He also took care to point out that it might not be quite necessary to use this Act even after it finds a place in the statute book. *The Bill was necessary in the common interest of the province and not for the benefit of any single community or party.*

There were some members, continued the Hon'ble Minister, who felt that too much power was being vested in the hands of the police officers under the Bill. Whatever may have been their justification or otherwise of police out look under the previous regime, the police under the new dispensation can be trusted to discharge their duties to the people with restraint and responsibility, realizing that the times had changed and that they must adapt themselves to the changed times. The Hon'ble Minister hoped that with public co-operation, the mental transformation of the policeman would come ... sooner than otherwise. There was also criticism about ...nment's attempt to put down ...ce. The Hon'ble Minister's answ... this was that if they allowed viol...e to grow without putting it down t...n there would be no chance for non-...nce to come up. It was because th... ...overnment, believed in no... ... they wanted to use ... possible. But ... worth the nam... under ... threat...

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people, they did not use the powers which had been vested in them by the law of the land. If to-day the Government took more powers in their hands by means of the measure under discussion the Hon'ble Minister said that it was only to preserve a peaceful atmosphere in the country in any emergency that might arise. Drastic diseases need drastic remedies, and the general support that the measure received at the hands of the legislators, except for some apprehensions expressed in regard to the powers conferred on subordinate police officers to order shooting, indicates the appreciation of its need in those difficult times.

Dominion Food Minister's Visit

The Hon'ble Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, Minister for Food in the Dominion Government, had been on a three-day visit to this province, in order to study at first hand the food situation here. This is ample evidence of the solicitude of the "Centre" and its willingness to help this province through the impending food crisis. The Hon'ble Minister had a busy programme in the course of which he took pains to study all aspects of the province's food problem. The statements that he made in different places in the course of his visit not only indicate the Dominion Government's anxious concern in the matter but also his complete grasp of the essentials of the food problem. There are three problems which have to be taken into consideration, he said, the first is the likely need of assistance from the Central Government in regard to food supplies; the second is how far the unaffected parts of the province, especially the irrigated areas, can by a very special effort try in the two coming seasons to increase the food supplies of the province; and the third is the study of substitute foodstuffs which people could fall back upon in an emergency. "I feel," he continued, "that if the official and non-official world co-operate in all the effort that is necessary and further maintain their self-confidence the crisis will be satisfactorily passed over. These latter words of the Hon'ble Minister need careful noting. Stepping up of food production cannot be effected through the unilateral efforts of the Government alone but requires the concentrated and co-operative efforts ... the entire people. The food crisis ... be tided over somehow and bot... Provincial and Central Governm...s are doing all that is possible ...r them. But the people also have ... vital responsibility and they ha... ...scharge it, without passively... the Government fo... ...lp may often ...is province has ...ay or to-morrow ...citizen has to ... at this ... to increase production cannot be a policy which will yield result in a short period or in the immediate future, and the province's needs for food supplies to tide over the threatened crisis are immediate. That is where the imperative need for immediate assistance from the centre comes in.

Women's Welfare

In our issue, dated 1st February, we published an article on women's welfare work in this province. This province has undoubtedly scored a march over other provinces in organizing a separate department for women's welfare. The importance of women's welfare and its vital part in the general welfare of the country are indisputable matters now and apparently, this fact is at the bottom of the present tidal wave of public interest in women's welfare. Women constitute roughly half of the population. Abraham Lincoln said "No nation can be half slave and half free." Similarly no country can achieve progress if its one-half constitutes a weak link. The Government of Madras have followed up the formation of a separate department for women's welfare with a number of other ameliorative measures. They have sanctioned the construction of a school building for training of workers at Gandhigram in Madura district. They have also made provision for the training of three batches of workers in the same place. But in this case, as in many other things, Government alone cannot achieve much success. The public, both men and women, have to fully co-operate with the Government in their efforts to promote women's welfare. Already this province has achieved some progress in this direction and Countess Mountbatten during her recent visit has borne testimony to it. In the course of a communication she observes "It is essential that women should take a wider interest in their responsibilities as citizens and the Government have shown great vision in the establishment of this department which will help many women to lead happier and more useful lives." As regards the actual outturn of work in this province, the Countess observes "it is considered a tremendous achievement that branches have been established in every headquarters, town and Presidency and that such a large number of centres are operating in the City in addition to the domiciliary visiting which is undertaken. There is in India such a great need for the attention of women and the awakening in them of their responsibilities as citizens that it is most heartening to find here in Madras the very progressive steps that have been taken to achieve this."

It is hoped that public will fully co-operate with the Government in their efforts to improve the lot of women folk in this Province.

Prohibition in Malabar and South Kanara

Certain criticisms have appeared in the Press with reference to the introduction of prohibition in Malabar and South Kanara. The main points in these criticisms are (1) that the scheme had entailed unemployment and distress to 270,000 ex-tappers and their dependants, (2) that illicit manufacture of toddy and arrack was resorted to in isolated spots on the coast and hilly tracts, (3) that bicycles were not available to the usual customers as the limited stock locally available was bought for the Prohibition staff, (4) that berths in public conveyances like railways and buses were appropriated by Prohibition staff and workers and large amounts were spent mainly as travelling allowance and ... jaggery had become scarce as a result of Prohibition.

These statements are exaggerated and wide off the mark. The actual number of tappers unemployed owing to the introduction of Prohibition in Malabar and South Kanara are about 28,500 and 15,000, respectively, so that the total number of persons affected would be about 217,500 assuming that an average family consists of five members. Usually only the able-bodied head of the family takes to tapping, the other members being engaged in agricultural operations.

Adequate and effective steps ha... been taken to prevent illicit ...ure of ...

Government became aware of the continuance of tapping in certain places they immediately published by tom-tom in the villages that tapping of trees for sweet toddy without a licence or for fermented toddy was punishable. Government have reason to believe that in places other than those in which there is authorized tapping for manufacture of jaggery, there is no illicit tapping in the two districts. Considering that Prohibition was introduced only on 1st October 1947 in these districts, any criticism made immediately after can only be described as premature.

The purchase of bicycles for the Prohibition staff did not result in inconvenience to the public for the simple reason that all the bicycles for that purpose were bought from outside dealers. No doubt, the successful working of the scheme necessitated the brisk movement of the staff to the needed places, but the accusation of the appropriation of berths in public conveyances is as baseless a charge as that of the alleged appropriation of bicycles exclusively for Prohibition work. Such allegations do not deserve any consideration.

Production of jaggery was also not adversely affected by Prohibition. With the commencement of the palmyrah jaggery season in December, permission was given for the tapping of sweet juice from palmyrah trees for the manufacture of jaggery. The Government also permitted the tapping of coconut trees for the manufacture of jaggery in selected centres in the two districts soon after Prohibition was introduced. The Government have organized 26 co-operative societies for the manufacture of coconut jaggery and 40 for palmyrah jaggery and these have absorbed about 10,200 tappers. Thus there is production of jaggery of both varieties on a co-operative basis on an increased scale.

Besides the formation of jaggery societies, Collectors of Prohibition districts have been instructed to explore the possibilities of providing other means of avocation to the ex-tappers. Formation of Land Colonization Societies, Milk Supply Societies, Khadi Spinning and Weaving Societies, Coir Industries Societies and other Cottage Industries Societies suitable for the tappers have been or are being formed. At the recent Conference of the Special Development Officers held at Madras, definite programmes of ameliorative work have been chalked out to provide suitable alternative employment to the ex-tappers. Government have therefore been taking all possible steps to provide work to the ex-tappers and the reports received show that by the formation of jaggery societies, the position in respect of unemployment among the ex-tappers has eased considerably in the two districts. Government are paying every attention to improve the lot of the ex-tappers.

> **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN**
>
> Hence it is that I have not hesitated to ask all non-Hindus to help me with their prayer in this mission, and it is because I have a living faith in my mission and because that faith is based on an extensive experience that I have not hesitated to say with the greatest deliberation that, if we, Hindus, do not destroy this monster of untouchability, it will devour both Hindus and Hinduism. And when I ask you to purify your hearts of untouchability, I ask of you nothing less than this—that you should believe in the fundamental unity and equality of man. I invite you all to forget that there are any distinctions of high and low among the children of one and the same God.
>
> —MAHATMA GANDHI.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Petrol Ration

The Government of India have fixed the petrol quota for this Province for the quarter ending 30th April 1948 provisionally at 39·6 lakhs gallons and they have at the same time stressed the need for economy in petrol consumption. The quota is the same as was allotted for the quarter ending 30th April 1947. Since April 1947, the number of motor vehicles has increased considerably and the quantity allotted will not, therefore, be sufficient to meet in full the demands for petrol. Instructions have accordingly been issued to all Area Rationing Authorities to make a 15 per cent and 33⅓ per cent cut in supplementary rations, respectively, for essential and non-essential users of motor cars and motor cycles. The Government have decided to restore with effect ... February 1948 the unit value of basic or ordinary coupons issued to motor cars and motor cycles. A basic or ordinary unit will, on and from that date, represent 2 gallons and it will not be necessary for owners to get such coupons endorsed.

[January 29]

Popularization of Parboiled Rice

The Rice Technology Committee at its meeting, held in New Delhi on 28th April 1947, has made the following recommendations on the question of popularizing the use of parboiled rice, in place of raw rice :—

(1) The use of parboiled rice, in place of raw rice, may be extended, in view of the fact that parboiled rice if properly produced, gives less breakage in milling, has more nutritive value and better keeping quality than raw rice. (2) The Food Department and the Provincial and State Governments should continue to popularize parboiled rice through the Food Department journal "Nutrition," through the newspapers published in English and Indian languages and over the radio, etc. (3) The production of parboiled rice should be encouraged by giving extra mill price for parboiled [illegible] all over India following the ex[illegible] of the Punjab Government. [illegible] the process of parboiling now carr[illegible] out in India should be improved and standardized, as far as possible, [illegible]ith reference to different varieties o[illegible] appointing two technical off[illegible] into the question in all [illegible] parboiling met[illegible] industrial as w[illegible] scale. (5) Wh[illegible] should [illegible] count[illegible]

imported, it should be parboiled before milling. (6) As the production of parboiled rice by the use of a mechanical dryer will be more economic and hygienic than the usual process of sun drying, an efficient dryer, suitable for the purpose, should be obtained from a reputed firm by some rice miller of India, so that it may lead to the production and use of more dryers of this type in other rice mills.

The Government have passed the following orders on the recommendations referred to above :—

With regard to recommendations (1) and (2), the Director of Public Health has already taken measures through his departmental agencies to popularize the use of parboiled rice. He has been directed to continue the propaganda and to intensify it in due course. The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has also been directed to consider the steps that are necessary to meet the increased demand that may result from such propaganda and to put them into effect, as soon as the general food situation returns to normal. For the present, the Government have decided not to pursue any proposal to supply hotels, etc., in rationed areas with parboiled rice alone, in view of the practical difficulties involved in making available adequate quantities of parboiled rice to ration card-holders. With regard to recommendation (3), the Government consider it undesirable to give extra mill price for the production of parboiled rice by way of encouragement, unless a ready market is assured for it. As regards recommendation number 6, the Government consider that the Department of Industries should, in consultation with the Agricultural Research Engineer, devise a mechanical dryer which the millers may be asked to introduce, if found suitable and economic. The Director of Industries and Commerce has been ordered to take early steps in the matter and to submit a report on it to the Government not later th[illegible]the 1st June 1948.

[February 4]

Temporary in[illegible]ease in Pensions [illegible]uced

[illegible] ...ve directed that ...ary increase in ...to all civil pen- ... Finance (Pen- ...947, shall ...s not exceeding Rs. 20—Rs. 4 per mensem; pensions exceeding Rs. 20 but not exceeding Rs. 60—Rs. 5 per mensem; pensions exceeding Rs. 60 but not exceeding Rs. 100—Rs. 6 per mensem.

Persons in receipt of pensions exceeding Rs. 100 but not exceeding Rs. 106 per mensem shall receive such increase as will bring the total pension to Rs. 106 per mensem. The reduced rates of temporary increase will take effect from 1st January 1948, i.e., on pensions due for payment in February 1948 and will remain in operation *until further orders.*

[February 5]

Handloom Industry

In May 1947, the Government appointed Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu, as a Court of Enquiry under the Industrial Disputes Act, to enquire into the conditions of labour in the handloom industry of the Province. After enquiry, the Court has submitted its report and has made the following recommendations :—

The chain of middlemen in yarn and cloth business must be eliminated and a drastic revision of dyeing charges should be made so that the price of handloom goods may be reduced and a good market may be secured for the industry. Every effort must be made to increase the supply of yarn which will provide employment to the weavers for 24 days in a month so that the wages of weavers may fall automatically. Every Weavers' Co-operative Production and Sale Society should open a credit department which must be able to finance the indebted weavers to liquidate their debts to the outsiders. The society must be made to function as a multi-purpose society catering to all the material needs of the weaving community. As there is an unqualified desire on the part of the weavers to become members of co-operative societies, the weavers' co-operative movement should be extended to embrace the entire community of weavers and coercion must be adopted to bring all the weavers into the co-operative fold. Weavers should not be compelled to take coloured yarn. The provisions of the Non-Power Factories Act, the Employment of Children Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Madras Maternity Benefit Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act must be applied to the handloom industry. A bonus of three months' wages may be paid to all the workers in all the handloom factories in the Province for the year 1946-47. All dependent weavers working under master weavers may be paid by their master weavers bonus equal to one-sixth of their annual earnings for the year 1946-47. A system of compulsory provident fund may be instituted and the workers and the employers may contribute equally at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the wages paid.

[February 5]

Foodgrains De-control

In an article which appeared at page 8 of the issue of the *Indian Express*, dated 3rd January 1948, 'A Consumer' has asked a series of question with regard to the effects of de-control *in the surplus districts.* As it is in the public interest to know the answers to these questions, the Government issue the following Press Note :—

Question (1) : Whether the present licensed retail shops will continue or whether any person may deal in rice as was obtaining prior to the introduction of control and rationing and whether all persons holding licences under the Foodgrains Control Order not doing business for sometime past can deal in foodgrains now ?

Answer : The Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 1947, continues to be in force. Under this order persons dealing in more than 20 maunds at a time should possess a licence under the order except those dealing in less than 20 maunds. Since the intensive all out procurement scheme continues to be in force in the surplus districts, merchants who are not appointed by the Collector as procuring agents can function as retailers but they cannot purchase paddy, rice or millets direct from producers but only from procuring agents appointed by the Collector.

Question (2) : Whether any quantity can be obtained by these retail dealers from the mills for retail transactions ?

Answer : The retail dealers should purchase their requirements of paddy, rice and millets only from the procuring agents appointed by the Collector. Whether millers or merchants such purchases should be limited to 20 maunds if they are not licensees under the Foodgrains Control Order.

Questions (3) *and* (4) : Whether the consumer can purchase any quantity he requires during the month, either from the miller or a retail dealer a[illegible] was the case prior to the introducti[illegible] of rationing ? Whether rice [illegible] to sell rice to the present w[illegible]

stockists like co-operative societies or to sell direct to the retail dealers and whether the mills can sell rice direct to the consumers ?

Answer: The consumer cannot purchase any quantity from the millers or wholesalers who will as at present supply only to the retailers who can sell to the public. The Government have recently extended the scope of the Essential Articles Restricted Acquisition. Order to all parts of the Province under which no one can purchase and stock foodgrains in quantities which will exceed his requirements for three months, calculated at the rate of 1 lb. per adult per day. Therefore a consumer cannot purchase more than three months' requirements without infringing the law.

Question (5): Whether there would be any fixation of prices for wholesale and retail transactions in rice after decontrol comes into effect ?

Answer: The Government have already announced the new F.O.R. prices for rice and paddy as well as wholesale ceiling prices in the surplus districts. A statutory notification has been issued giving statutory effect to these prices. Retail prices are expected to follow these statutory ceiling prices.

Question (6): By the continuance of restrictions enforced even after decontrol, are mills expected to merely dehusk paddy as is the case now or can they give at least single polish or more polishes ?

Amswer: The dehusking Order has since been cancelled. Mills are required to give the normal single polish. They cannot give more than a single polish. Necessary amendments to the Rice Mills Licensing Order will issue shortly.

Question (7): Whether any consumer owning lands either in the same taluk in which he resides or in a different taluk of the district can transport paddy required for his family for one year without a permit and if a permit is necessary, to whom is the consumer to apply ?

Answer: Such movement is permissible except where inter-taluk or inter-village bans exist. Where such ban exists, a permit should be taken from the Tahsildar or Taluk Supply Officer having jurisdiction over the area for transport of foodgrains for personal consumption.

Question (8): Whether the existing [restr]ictions imposed on marriage occa[sions] are to be continued even after [decontrol] comes into effect ?

Answer: The existing restrictions relating to feeding at marriage parties and parties other than marriage parties still continue to be in force.

The above answers apply to the rice surplus taluks of the East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Tanjore and South Arcot districts besides Malabar and Nilgiris.

[February 6]

National Savings Certificates

The amount realised by way of sale of National Savings Certificates in the Province of Madras and Indian States for the week ending January 10, 1948 is Rs. 5,59,435. The total amount realised from April 1, 1947 to January 10, 1948, is Rs. 1,68,29,155.

[February 6]

Fodder Crops

In pursuance of the suggestion made by the Dairy Development Adviser to the Government of India in 1945 for taking adequate steps to grow more fodder crops in this Province, the Government have sanctioned a scheme, at a cost not exceeding Rs. 2,100 for conducting trials of different kinds of grasses, which are likely to prove useful to the milch cattle round about Madras. The details of the scheme are as follows :—

A plot of land measuring about 6 acres in extent belonging to the Theosophical Society, Adyar, will be taken on lease by the Agricultural Department for a period of one year in the first instance. Fodder crops like maize, fodder cholam, pillipesara, thin Napier Guinea grass, lucerena grass, etc., will be grown there. A demonstration Maistri to be stationed at the place will supervise the labour and carry out the instructions of the Departmental officers for the successful growing of the grasses. The scheme will be in charge of the District Agricultural Officer, Saidapet. Accurate records of the yield of fodder crops and grasses will be maintained for evaluating their merit as fodders.

[February 11]

Muslim Education

The Government have passed the following orders on the memorandum of representations submitted by the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly on the question of Muslim Education in the Province and the establishment of separate schools for Muslims.

While the Government are against the starting and maintenance of separate schools for Muslims as a policy, the present separate schools may be continued for the next five years but without any commitment to continue them after the period. In secondary schools and in Standards VI, VII and VIII of higher elementary schools, the regional language will be the medium of instruction. In elementary schools where the regional language is not being taught now, the study of the regional language will be introduced in Standard III or earlier. The present arrangement for the provision of religious instruction for Muslims in existing Muslim schools may be continued under a syllabus to be approved by the Government. The Government, if they think fit, may close such of those schools which are working uneconomically or for any other reason.

The suggestions that Urdu shall be a compulsory language after the completion of the compulsory elementary stage of education up to the completion of Form VI, that Devenagiri script should also be taught, that provision for Arabic and Persian should be made from Form IV to Form VI to be learnt as optional and that English should be compulsory from Form II or III to Form VI will be gone into along with the reorganization of secondary education.

[February 11]

A Correction

With reference to the Press Release, dated 15th December 1947, giving a list of Government servants dismissed for corruption, Mr. P. S. Narayanasamy Ayyar, ex-Manager, Office of the Director of Cinchona Department, Ootacamund, was dismissed (for corruption) by the Director of Cinchona department, Ootacamund, and not as a result of the investigation by the Special Staff for corruption cases, as stated in the said [Pre]ss Release.

[February 11]

Mahatmaji Portrait

The Government [have d]ecided that portraits of Mahat[ma ... s]hould be displayed perma[nently ... s]eats of the presiding ... criminal and reve[nue ...] Province as M... and justi...

Commercial Crops Marketing Act

In connection with the working of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act in the Tiruppur notified area for the year 1945, it was observed that the transactions in the yard of the committee amounted only to 5 per cent of the total arrivals.

In order to attract a large quantity of the produce of the growers of cotton to the market yard so that the full benefits of the Act might be realised by the grower and the trade, the Government issued orders in October 1947 prohibiting the purchase and sale of cotton within a distance of three miles from the limits of the market of the Tiruppur Cotton Market Committee. With a view to consider the whole question the Government convened a conference of the representatives of the traders, growers and the market committee early in January 1948 when it was represented that, as it was impossible to conform to the orders of the Government restricting the purchase and sale of cotton, the orders might be kept in abeyance. Orders were accordingly issued that, pending further examination of the question, the orders regarding the restrictions might be held in abeyance.

The Government have since reconsidered the question and have directed that the Tiruppur Cotton Market Committee should construct twenty-one or more sheds measuring 40′ × 60′ at its own cost and also provide a Trading hall for the sale of lint by samples by 1st September 1948. The Committee has also been instructed to give facilities to such of the merchants as desire to construct rat proof godowns of a standard design within the limits of the market at their cost. These godowns will become the property of the Market Committee and these merchants will be allowed to occupy the godowns and pay rent to be fixed by the Market Committee, the rent being set off towards the cost of the godowns. When the sheds and godowns are completed by September 1948 the restrictions o[illegible]lly imposed by the Government [illegible] be restored, and all trade in cott[illegible] (both lint and kapas) shall fro[illegible] that date be done within the [illegible] All licences for sale and [illegible] cotton in respect of an[illegible] within a distance [illegible] he limits of the [illegible]ur Cotton Market [illegible]after be liable

[illegible]3]

Cattle Feeds

With a view to restore free trade in cattle-feeds the Government have decided to decontrol the price and movement of all cattlle-feeds except groundnut cake. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, has been requested to take immediate steps to implement the decision by cancelling all statutory and executive orders issued by him and Collectors of districts in regard to the control over price, movement, etc., of cattle-feeds. Consequential amendments to the existing statutory control on cattle-feed will be notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* after obtaining the prior concurrence of the Government of India, wherever necessary.

The Government wish to make it clear that there is no ban on the transport of cotton seed to places within or outside the Province in the Indian Dominion. The prohibition on the import of cotton seed into the Tinnevelly area introduced under the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (Central Act III of 1923), will, however, continue as heretofore.

[February 13]

Recruitment of War Service Candidates

In their order, dated 9th September 1947, the Government ordered that war service candidates competing for vacancies (non-reserved) arising on or after 1st April 1947 are permitted to deduct the period of their war service in computing their age for appointment. The Government have now directed that this concession should be extended to war service candidates competing for de-reserved vancancies ($33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of those originally reserved) which are thrown open to the public.

The Government have further decided that war service candidates, who have rendered temporary civil service, seeking retention against de-reserved vacancies in the posts of Civil Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons (Men's Sections), Nurses, First Class Health Officers and Second Class Health Officers, should be permitted to deduct from their age both the periods of their war service and continuous temporary service.

The Government have ordered that for the second sentence of paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 821, Public (Services), dated 15th March 1947, the following should be substituted:—

"War service candidates competing for these vacancies will be allowed to deduct the period of their war service in computing their age for appointment. They will not be allowed any other special privileges, or concessions as regards qualifications, etc., except in the case of those, who applied in response to an advertisement, inviting applications published by the Commission on or before 4th February 1947."

[February 16]

Addresses to His Excellency the Governor-General

In order to enable His Excellency the Governor-General of the Dominion of India to show to the Government of India, as a Constitutional Governor-General, copies of any speeches or replies to addressess presented to him in the provinces on the occasion of his visits, it is essential that he should be informed well beforehand in regard to any address he is desired to make and that he should be in possession of a copy of the address to which he is to reply, as also the material for his own address. It is, therefore, requested that in all such cases, the information and material referred to above and the draft of the address proposed to be presented to him should reach the Provincial Government, as long as possible, before the actual event, with a minimum of 14 days, so that they may be forwarded to the Governor-General, to reach him at least a week before the event.

[February 17]

Bonus for Paddy

According to the orders issued on the subject, 15th August 1947 was the last date for the receipt of applications claiming bonus for deliveries made during the period from 1st December 1946 to 30th June 1947. Similarly the last date for the receipt of applications for bonus in respect of deliveries made during the second spell of the bonus period (viz., 1st July 1947 to 30th September 1947) was 30th November 1947. It has come to the notice of the Government that several producers who have delivered paddy and rice during the two spells mentioned above failed to apply before the dates mentioned above and that they have applied subsequent to those dates. Some persons may not have applied under the mistaken impression that it was too late to clai[m] bonus.

The Government therefore desire [to] announce to the public that tho[se] bonus will be paid now only [in respect] of applications received wi[thin]

prescribed dates, bonus relating to applications which are received after the due dates mentioned above, will be paid on or after March 1948.

The Government have also sanctioned the payment of bonus for paddy and rice delivered during the period from 1st November 1947 to 6th December 1947. Applications for bonus in respect of the deliveries made during this period may be sent to the respective Taluk Supply Officers or District Supply Officers as the case may be. Payment of bonus will, however, be made only after March 1948.

Taluk and District Food Committees

In supersession of their order dated November 3, 1947, the Government have directed that in view of the present policy of de-control and de-rationing, Taluk and District Food Committees in the surplus districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Kistna, Nellore and Tanjore should be abolished forthwith. The Taluk and District Food Committees in the remaining districts will, however, continue to function till 31st March 1948, without any change in regard to their existing personnel. [February 16]

Departments' Forum

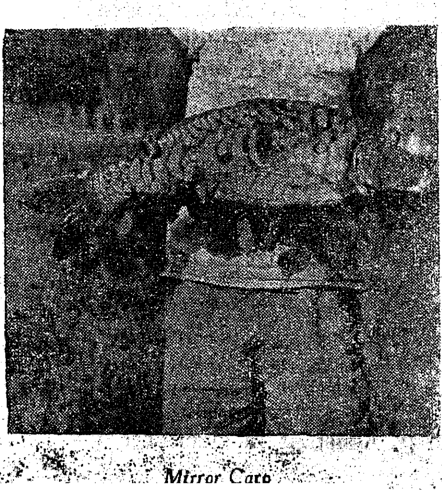
Fisheries Department

During his recent visit the Hon'ble Sri N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power in the Government of India, paid a visit to the Government Fish-Farm at Poondi. The fish-farm was started almost along with the

The Hon'ble Sri Gadgil inspecting the fishes

construction of the Poondi Reservoir as a necessary adjunct for the proper development of its fisheries." The construction of reservoirs, either for irrigation or for power, would open up vast possibilities for fish production as is shown by the fact that even from a small reservoir like Poondi it was possible to harvest about 50 tons of fish last year fetching a revenue of Rs. [illegible],000 to the Government. Thus, it is [illegible] have a fish-farm attached to

Watching the netting operations



Mirror Carp

Dr. Sen examining a fish

each reservoir, for rearing good varieties of fishes for consumption and for augmenting the natural stock in the reservoir.

The Hon'ble Minister went round the farm and saw various fishes.

* * *

The Government have sanctioned the grant of advances to the fishermen employed in the deep-sea fishing operations of the Department, up to a maximum of Rs. 50 to each fisherman. The advance is recoverable within a year and is interest-free

A specimen of Catla, our quickest growing Carp, was caught recently from the Velacheri Pond in Government House, Guindy, which was stocked by the Department in previous years. It was 3½ feet long, and weighed about 40 pounds and when auctioned fetched a price of Rs. 15.

A Gourami caught recently in the moat of the Vellore Fort weighed 10¾ pounds, which is the maximum recorded in the Madras Province.

Education Department

Reorganization [illegible] Secondary Education.—In conn[illegible] the Reorganization of [illegible] Education, Govern[illegible] [illegible] Rs. 10,000 tow[illegible] equipment in t[illegible] schools for t[illegible] bifurca[illegible]

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government have declared that the sugar industry in the Province is a public utility service for a period of six months from the date of the publication of the notification. In four cases, disputes between employers and employees have been referred to Industrial Tribunals and in three cases Labour Officers are exploring possibilities of settlement of disputes. On the intervention of the Commissioner of Labour the Dharapuram Motor Workers' Union, Dharapuram, has withdrawn the notice of strike. The dispute between the workers and the management of the Dindigul Tanneries has been settled and the notice of strike withdrawn. The Labour Officer, Madura, reports that a labour dispute in Madura has been settled and the strike notice withdrawn. The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Mahalakshmi Textile Mills in Pasumalai. They have also accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, on the dispute between Sri K. Venkatarama Iyer, Typist, and the management of Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Electric Power Corporation, Karaikudi.

[*2nd fortnight of January* 1948]

Revenue Department

Resettlement

Salem

Manivilandan Ex-servicemen's Co-operative Colonization Society.—A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society was held on 29th January 1948 in the Colony. Colonists for temporary cultivation of the land were selected and 50 men were tentatively selected to grow food crops in the colony lands.

The Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 23,650 towards reclamation of land, construction of 12 huts, purchase of 12 pairs of bulls, sinking of five more irrigation wells, etc., for the colony. There is a bright future for this colony.

(2) *Motor Transport Co-operative Society for Ex-servicemen, Limited.*—The lorries of the society are expected to arrive at Salem by 5th February 1948.

(3) The Ex-servicemen's Canteen opened on 14th January 1948 is working well in the District Employment Office, Salem.

Madras.

The number of [illegible]ervicemen registered for the quar[illegible]nding with 31st December 1947 is [illegible]. Besides this, 44 refugees have a[illegible] been registered. During this perio[illegible] demand for these men numbering [illegible]57 were received from vari[illegible] in the City for appoi[illegible] almost all the [illegible]omplied with.

[illegible]lor's Co-operative [illegible]men is func[illegible]ter end[illegible] the society has been able to stitch garments for both private and Government institutions valued Rs. 900. At present the society has got a surplus of about Rs. 475–4–0. Due to the difficulty in obtaining cloth the work of the society was suspended for about a month during this quarter.

There were 61 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 16,050 on 31st December 1947 in the Madras Co-operative Motor Transport Society, Limited, for ex-servicemen. There were ten lorries for the society at the beginning of the quarter. Fourteen lorries were added during the quarter. Thus there were 24 lorries for the society at the end of the quarter which were mainly engaged in plying for hire. The lorries earned a sum of Rs. 82,788–6–0. Excluding expenses and providing a reserve of Rs. 21,000 and odd, the society has earned a net income of Rs. 18,584. The society has employed 48 ex-servicemen in various capacities and all of them have earned by way of wages a sum of Rs. 10,448 during the half year.

The Madras Co-operative Radio Sales and Service Society for Ex-servicemen, during the quarter ending, sold about 40 sets and has made a net profit of Rs. 1,500 so far. The society is functioning well. The society has been able to provide occupation for some of the trainees who came out of Instrument Mech. Training Centre in addition to those employed in the society by giving them training in Radio business and fixing them up as dealers with sole monopoly for Untra Radios in the mufasal districts. The question of starting a laboratory and service to provide employment for larger number of ex-servicemen is under consideration of the Board of Directors.

Trichinopoly

Registration and placing.—In the month under report the total number of registration in the Trichinopoly Sub-Regional Exchange was 429. The total number of placings in Government and other department was 128.

Motor Transport Co-operative Society.—The society is functioning satisfactorily. There are 15 lorries at present. One of them is under repairs and it is

(*Continued on page* 24)

Directorate of Resettlement and Employment

The following changes in the designations of the Managerial staff of the Employment Exchanges are notified :—

	Present designation	*Changed designation.*
1.	Manager, Central Clearing House.	Central Clearing House Officer.
2.	Deputy Manager, Central Clearing House.	Deputy Central Clearing House Officer.
3.	Assistant Manager, Central Clearing House.	Assistant Central Clearing House Officer.
4.	Manager, Regional Employment Exchange.	Regional Employment Officer.
5.	Deputy Manager, Regional Employment Exchange.	Deputy Regional Employment Officer.
6.	Assistant Manager, Regional Employment Exchange.	Assistant Regional Employment Officer.
7.	Manager, Sub-Regional Employment Exchange.	Sub-Regional Employment Officer.
8.	Assistant Manager, Sub-Regional Employment Exchange.	Assistant Sub-Regional Employment Officer.
9.	Assistant Manager (Tech)	Assistant Employment Officer (Tech)
10.	Assistant Manager incharge, District Employment Office.	District Employment Officer

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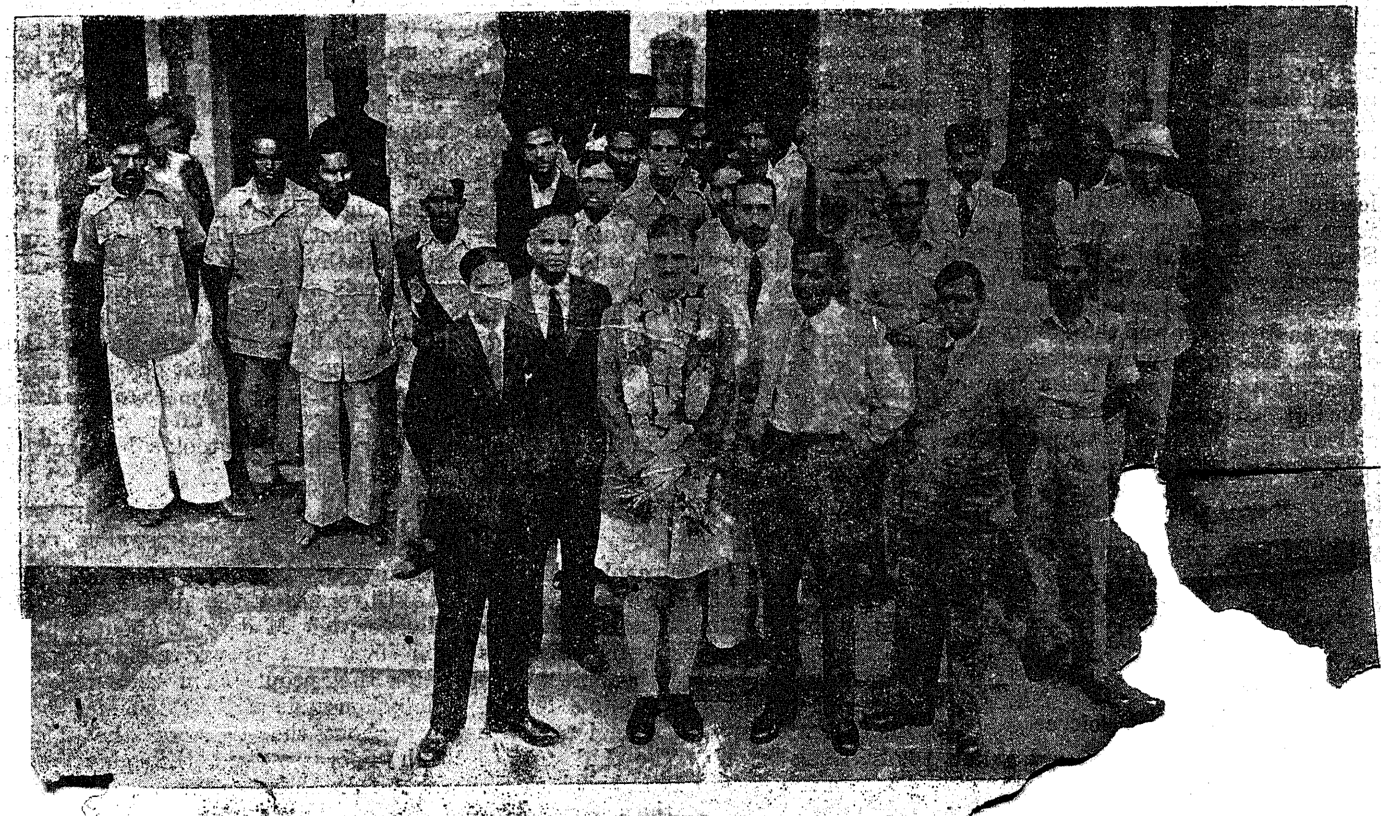
Governor looks into Ex-servicemen's Activities

His Excellency the Governor was given a reception by the Officers and Ex-servicemen at the Employment Exchange, Vizagapatam



His Excellency the Governor sees bright future ...

Madras Province's last Homage to Mahatma Gandhi

Immersion Cermonies at different places

(By our Special Representatives)

Introductory

On 12th February 1948, Gandhi had literally joined the immortals. On that day between 12 noon and 5 p.m. his last physical remains were consigned to the bosom of the sacred rivers and seas in different parts of India to the accompaniment of ceremonies which were witnessed by millions of people. This provides incontestable proof—if proof were at all needed—that Gandhi was the greatest Indian of all Indians, that he belonged and will always belong to India as a whole and not to any particular place or area of it, and that he was the loved and respected of all communities.

Greatest Indian

The greatest Indian of recent times had been the recipient of the greatest honour that any one could get in this country. While living he was the beloved of millions of his countrymen. He was an embodiment of their hopes and ideals, their aspirations and feelings. He was venerated and respected by them and won their affection as much as their respect. He was the trusted adviser and acknowledged mentor of those who constitute the present Government of India, after leading them in the fight for freedom for more than a quarter of a century. Some of his ideas and views and suggestions may not be adhered to in all their completeness. A Government has to govern and the Government of India has to govern a country composed of a number of heterogeneous elements. Some of his ideals like non-violence are also apparently unattainable immediately because probably they are somewhat [illegible] advance of the times. But there [illegible]ttle doubt that they represent the [illegible]uintessence of a philosophy of con[illegible]uct, which alone can rescue Gover[illegible]ents and peoples of the world [illegible] catastrophe, which seems t[illegible] [illegible]ankind with the inexor[illegible] [illegible]s of destiny.

[illegible]violence

[illegible]rder and [illegible] cannot [illegible]y and violence stalk the world. Gandhiji's message has not been fully implemented during his lifetime even by his own people and non-violence remains an ideal to be worked for and striven for and not a realized objective. Nevertheless the saying that no prophet is honoured either in his own country or during his own lifetime, is not true of the Mahatma, who was not only honoured by his countrymen but also honoured during his own lifetime. A few decades hence, probably, Gandhiji's life and his message will have a tremendous revival and prove an irresistible means of solace to the world in which misery and desolation are so rampant now.

The immersion ceremonies at different places had attracted wide notice and provided an occasion to millions of people to pay their last homage to the Mahatma they loved and lost. What greater glory can any son of man want in this world than that his martyrdom for a good cause should evoke spontaneous response and veneration from millions of human beings! Gandhiji, as Mr. Devadas Gandhi said, in his broadcast, was not merely the head of his own family nor regarded as such but belonged to the nation as a whole. To one such as he, who dedicated his whole life to the service of his people, there can be no narrow limits within which his memory or his accomplishment could be confined. This is the lesson conveyed to us by the scenes witnessed throughout the country on 12th February 1948, when the immersion ceremonies took place.

Ceremony at Madras

Over half a million of people witnessed the immersion of Mahatmaji's ashes in the sea at Mylapore Beach on 12th February 1948. The immersion ceremony was performed by the Premier, Sri O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, shortly before 6 p.m. with the singing of Rama Dhun by hundreds of women volunteers. There was a huge procession in this connection headed by detachment of mounted police from the Banquetting Hall. Women volunteers carried the urn in a small decorative chariot. Nearly three lakhs of people paid their homage to Mahatmaji's ashes at the Banqueting Hall prior to the starting of the procession.

The sea front presented a scence never before witnessed in the annals of Madras. The entire foreshore from the Napier Bridge to the San Thome Church was a mass of humanity. The actual ceremony was scheduled to take place at 5-30 p.m. At 5-30 p.m. the courtege arrived at the place of immersion and cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai" rent the air on all sides. In five minutes, the Premier came and behind him came His Excellency the Governor and Lady Nye, the Chief Justice and high dignitaries and officers of the Government. Desika Sevaks sang Raghupathy Raghava Rajaram and thousands in the crowd took up the strain. Men and women in the crowd showered flowers on the urn as the Premier emerged with it into the open square. Then the ashes were dissolved in the water and after immersion, Premier and others took a bath in the sea.

At Danushkodi

More than a lakh of people belonging to Tamil Nad paid their homage to the remains of Mahatma Gandhi, when the urn containing a portion of his ashes were taken, among other places, to Dhanushkodi by the Hon'ble Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam for immersion in the holy Sangamam. The Indo-Ceylon Express [illegible] February 11th, by which the ashes were carried in the saloon, which was specially placed by His Excellency the Governor at the disposal of the Minister, left Madras at about 9 p.m. The fact that it was night did not deter the people from thronging in their thousands at the stations *en route* throughout the night of the 11th [illegible] 12th February and throughout t[illegible] day on the 12th February. [illegible]ceptible, but nevertheless, [illegible]

thread of love which bound the people of the Mahatma led them in their thousands to tender their reverential homage to him. Chingleput, Villupuram, Kumbakonam, Mayavaram and Tanjore were some of the places where, in spite of its being night, big crowds were present.

Huge Crowds

From early morning on the 12th up to the time when the train reached Dhanushkodi at about 4 p.m. every station platform where the train stopped presented a surging mass of humanity, composed of men, women and children, Hindus, Muslims and others. There were many among them who openly wept and there were many more who silently expressed their grief. At Puddukottai, Chettinad, Karaikudi, Manamadura, Ramnad and Mandapam, were witnessed some of the biggest congregations. On the whole and but with few exceptions, the people behaved in an orderly manner and the police and the officials did their best to maintain peace. The mechanical contrivance by which the urn containing the ashes could be pushed to either side of the carriage, enabled the people to have a distinct and clear view of the same. A particularly gratifying feature of the whole proceeding is that, among those who crowded at the wayside stations to pay homage, the Harijans for whom the Mahatma had special affection and who in a way constitutued his special charge, formed a preponderating element. Countless offerings of garlands and flowers were made all along the route to the ashes and there was a tremendous demand for flowers and petals which covered the urn.

Arrival at Dhanushkodi

The ceremony of the immersion of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes at Danushkodi on the evening of February 12th, 1948, was a solemn one befitting the occasion. When the saloon carrying the ashes, which were in charge of the Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, reached Dhanushkodi at 4 p.m., a big crowd of 8,000 to 10,000 people was already waiting there eager to have darshan. These thousands of persons had arrived at the place from various districts and more than one special train run by the S.I.R. administration carried the crowds there throughout the day. On the Dhanushkodi station platform were present the District Collector, the District Judge and other officials Congressmen, and the police, who were drawn up on the platform, presented a guard of honour as the urn was brought down from the train after being reverentially garlanded.

The Hon'ble Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, accompanied by Mrs. Lakshmi Bharathi, Mr. R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., the Hon. Mr. B. Ramakrishna Raju, Mr. Adityan, the Zamindar of Devakottai and other Congressmen and officials took out the urn containing the ashes and proceeded outside the station platform through a narrow cordon made by the police.

Outside was waiting a jeep fully decorated with flowers, into which the Minister and the principal members of his party got in with the ashes' urn. Amidst cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai", the jeep slowly proceeded to the ghat. Huge crowds trying to get a view of the urn lined the route and the two-and-a-half mile stretch of sand between the Dhanushkodi railway station and the immersion ghat presented a mass of moving human beings. The hot sun overhead did not deter these thousands of people, men, women and children who wanted to reach the immersion place as early as possible to have as full view of the ceremonies there as possible, from walking the whole distance. The jeep reached the sacred spot where the two seas meet, the Sagara Sangamam, the most sacred spot in India for Hindus next to Benares, where the ashes were to be immersed, at about 5 p.m. On the sands of the beach adjoining the sea, was erected a temporary pandal, into which the Minister took the urn, holding it in a reverentail manner, and placed it on a specially erected platform.

Vedic Rites performed

After the Minister, Sri Ramakrishna Raju and others had a bath, the pre-immersion rites were performed to the accompaniment of the chanting of the relevant Vedic manthras. The Head Priest attached to the Rameswaram Temple, who is also the official priest of the Nepal Maharajah at Rameswaram, officiated at the function along with others. The rites took about half an hour and were witnessed by the huge crowd, most of whom were shedding tears or otherwise displaying their emotion.

Immediately thereafter, the urn was taken by Mr. Baksthavatsalam out to the sea and immersed in the waters of the Sangamam amidst the cries and sobs of the multitude cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai." The original programme of conveying them to the deep waters of the sea for immersion on a steam launch had to be given up at the last moment owing to the pressure from the crowed which now closed in on the urn.

A fact worth mentioning is that notwithstanding that huge crowds gathered at the stations to demonstrate their love for the Mahatma, the train arrived at its destination punctually. The South Indian Railway authorities co-operated to their utmost throughout the journey and took all necessary precautions firstly, to facilitate the crowds viewing the ashes and secondly to run the train to the scheduled time.

After having another bath, the Minister returned to Dhanushkodi station where he recorded a message for A.I.R. on Mahatma Gandhi, in the course of which he said that the immersion of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes at Rameswaram, where Sri Ramachandra crossed the sea to Lanka to destroy Ravana and rescue Sita and thereby destroy the forces of evil represented by Ravana, was a fitting manner of reminding ourselves of Gandhiji's lifelong desire for the establishment of Rama Rajya in this country. He exhorted the people to follow in the martyr's footsteps.

The Minister and his party returned to Rameswaram at 7 p.m. where after having another bath, he visited the Rameswaram Temple. Temple honours were accorded to him and he offered prayers at different shrines. A public meeting was arranged by this time, at which 5,000 people were present. Messrs. Bakthavatsalam, Swaminathan, Somayajulu, Ramakrishna Raju and Mrs. Lakshmi Bharathi addressed the gathering, the Minister speaking in feeling terms about Gandhiji's ideals and the noble life he led and exhorting the audience to remind themselves of his work and follow him.

Follow His Ideals

Thus closed a memorable event—the immersion ceremony at Dhanushkodi—which was, however, only the culminating point of a number of most impressive and moving demonstrations of popular love and reverence for the dead teacher, all along the route from Madras to Dhanushkodi ... the people now to ... and affection ... Mahatma's ... ed bri...

the great man not merely by recounting his ideals and teachings as noble and worthy but by proving by their deeds and actions that they really cherish them as guides to their own lives.

The entire proceedings of the immersion ceremony were filmed and A.I.R., Trichinopoly gave a commentary in Tamil to the assembled people at Dhanushkodi.

Mahatma's Ashes mingle with the Kaveri

Amidst the chanting of 'Hari Ram, Hari Ram,' the Shencottah Passenger, carrying the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi to Trichinopoly, left Madras at 7-30 a.m. on the 11th. The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, and T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar travelled in the saloon, in which the ashes were kept. Two young girls, relatives of Dr. Rajan, accompanied the party, and sang 'Raghupathi Raghava Raja Ram,' as the train steamed into every station. The urn was kept on a raised platform behind the saloon, and could be clearly seen by the milling crowds who gathered in their thousands to pay their last homage to their beloved leader. A remarkable feature was that side by side with the pressing eagerness of the people there was a sober restraint among them; and no or untoward incident marred the solemnity. People bursting into tears, as soon as the urn was seen, was a common occurrence. In particular, the sight, at a station near Cuddalore, of a young man who writhed in agony, and cried aloud in grief, should be haunting the memory of many who witnessed it. Amidst sobs and tears he related his story. His mother was carrying, when she was arrested in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1921; and he had been born in prison. Thus baptised in a prison cell, he had followed his leader, all through these years. It was a difficult task to wrench this young man from the rails where he had laid himself prostrate.

The biggest crowds were at Tanjore, Mavavaram, Kumbakonam and Chidambaram. At the last mentioned place, the students of Annamalai University had mustered in all their strength. At Ayyampet and Pandaravadai, in Tanjore district, huge crowds of Muslims [illegible]voutly paid their respects to one [illegible] had been their greatest friend. [illegible]verywhere people clamoured and [illegible]ressed forward, to touch the urn w[illegible] their hands. Those who were [illegible] do so, touched the saloon [illegible]ds, and some, even [illegible] their hands to [illegible]he most touching [illegible]f the lepers at [illegible]

and raising their hands in prayer, as the train thundered past. It was this colony, which Gandhiji had visited, during his last South Indian tour. A Railway official who was travelling in the saloon, recalled how during that visit, Gandhiji had been adamant in refusing to travel in a saloon. All the luxurious fittings had, had to be removed, and a hard wooden plank provided.

At Golden Rock, where a huge crowd of workers had gathered, the saloon was detached train and taken by a special engine to Trichinopoly junction. It was an agreeable surprise to everyone that the train reached Trichinopoly punctually at the scheduled time—an elequent testimony to the excellent transport arrangements that had been made. Inside the Trichinopoly station only a selected few had been admitted and they stood ready, in marching order to follow the urn. With great solemnity the urn was removed from the carriage by Sri Avinashilingam Chettiar and handed over to Dr. Rajan, who received it from the platform, with a tricolour flag spread over his hands. Headed by the two Ministers and escorted by the armed police who presented funeral honours, the small party made its way out of the station. Outside, huge crowds had gathered, and it was with a superhuman effort that order was maintained. The urn was placed in an open car, and the two Ministers drove to Puthur Maidan where the ashes were kept till the next day. At the maidan, an all night vigil was kept by students, Desa Sevikas and volunteers.

At 6-30 a.m. on the 12th, the procession carrying the ashes started from the Puthur Maidan, towards the Amma Mandapam, where the immersion was to take place. The urn was kept in a chariot bedecked with flowers. The two Ministers were seated in the chariot on each side of the urn. Sri Avinasilingam Chettiar, himself helped to pull the chariot for the first few minutes. The procession took more than 6 hours to cover the 6¼ mile route. It was 12-30 when it reached Amma Mandapam.

Meanwhile at the Mandapam, a crowd of more than 3 lakhs had gathered. A police cordon, that had been thrown on the river banks proved no match to the surging crowds. The people entered the river, and stood in waist-deep water. At one time it looked as if there would be no water, for the ashes to be immersed in; the river was so fully packed with people. With great difficulty, the way was cleared for the Ministerial party. Temple honours from the Srirangam Temple were presented. Hymns that were dear to the Mahatma, and texts from religious scriptures were recited. It is said that as Dr. Rajan poured milk over the urn, the 'Garudan' the sacred messenger of Lord Krishna, circled in the sky over the spot. Many in the crowd were heard to say that this was the homage paid by the Gods, to the noble 'Son of Man.' At about 1-30, the ashes were immersed and the remains of the Mahatma mingled with the waters of the Kaveri.

The people took their bath in the river, after the immersion. The Ministers then addressed the crowds appealing to the people to uphold the principles for which Gandhiji had lived, worked and died.

The Immersion of Gandhiji's Ashes at Cape Comorin

The ashes to be immersed at Cape Comorin were taken by Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon, Minister for Agriculture, Madras, in a special saloon attached to the Cochin Express. The saloon was beautifully decorated with National flags and flower garlands. A moving platform had been improvised inside the compartment to facilitate large crowds seeing the urn.

The Minister was accompanied by [illegible] M-s A. V. Kuttimalu Amma, [illegible]n left the Madras Central at 4-30 p.m. amidst cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai." At several stations where the train halted *en route*, the urn containing the remains of the beloved Mahatma was exhibited on the platform annexe of the saloon so that the crowds who had flocked to the stations could have a full view of it. Garlands and flowers were showered on the urn. The eyes of many were filled with tears. In spite of the huge crowds and delay at wayside stations the train

Ernakulam South Railway Station at the scheduled time (10 a.m.) and the Prime Minister of Cochin, Sri T. K. Nayar, received the urn after paying homage to it, the many hundreds of people who had gathered in the premises of the station maintaining a solemn silence at the moment. Later a procession was formed, with the urn, carried by the Prime Minister on his head. On both sides of the processional route, large crowds of people had gathered, availing themselves of every vantage point to have a glimpse of the last remains of the Mahatma. When the final procession reached the Durbar Hall grounds, the urn was solemnly installed by the Prime Minister on a platform specially erected for the occasion.

Cochin Maharaja's Homage

His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin, the aged Ruler of the State, who had specially come over from the Hill Palace at Tripoonithura to do homage to the sacred ashes of the "Prince among Men" was the first to do so. His Highness, after prostrating before the urn with tear-dimmed eyes, went round the platform on which the urn had been installed three times and offered prayers, ending his homage with another prostration. Well over 40,000 people, men, women of all classes and communities, castes and creeds, availed themselves of the opportunity of paying their respects to the Mahatma's remains. Not within the memory of any living person has there been a procession so solemn and magnificent as the one that was witnessed this morning.

At Trivandrum

Exactly at 1 p.m. when the darshan of the people was over, the Prime Minister of Cochin took the urn in a car, accompanied by Sri K. Madhava Menon to the Cochin frontier ferry at Aroor. The urn was taken across in a beautifully decorated Government boat to the Travancore side where it was received by the representatives of the Travancore Government and prominent citizens. of Travancore with military honours. The cortege carrying the ashes was a military vehicle highly decorated with National flags, flowers and garlands. The cortege was driven by Mr. Ramamurthi, Director of Transport, Travancore State, and on ... seated Sri K. Madhava Menon ... ssion started at about 1-40 ... m the same day. All along the route people were waiting in the hot sun with folded arms to pay their respects. Many were weeping, perhaps they were recollecting the familiar smile of Mahatma Gandhi when he visited the same places 14 years ago to collect money for the Harijan Fund. The Trivandrum Corporation had arranged a reception at Kattachakonam junction. The city Mayor, Sree Varada Rajan Nair, received the ashes and paid homage. When the vehicle carrying ashes arrived at the Victoria Jubilee Town at 8 p.m. Sri P. G. N. Unnithan, the Dewan of Travancore, and others received the ashes. The sacred ashes were placed on a decorated platform put up in front of the main platform in the hall, for the darshan of the public.

At 7-30 a.m. on the 12th, His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore and his brother His Highness the Elaya Raja drove into the Town Hall. Prominent officials and non-officials were present. There was pin-drop silence. Their Highnesses walked barefooted to the platform where the ashes were kept and reverentially offered white rose petals. Their Highnesses stood for a while before the ashes in prayers and then left the place.

At 7-45 a.m. the urn containing the ashes, was taken out on its 54 miles journey to Cape Comorin. Leaving the Town Hall the cortege passed through immense crowds which lined themselves on either side of the route, showering flowers on the cortege and singing hymns favourite to Gandhiji.

At Cape Comorin

The cortege reached Cape Comorin at 11 o'clock in the day and was received by a gathering of several thousands. At the spot about half a mile north of Cape Comorin beach, the Dewan of Travancore and other officials and non-officials and people had gathered from far and near. The urn was taken out from the cortege and carried to the beach by Pattom Thanu Pillai on his head. With him were the Dewan, Sri Madhava Menon, Mrs. Kuttimalu Amma and others. Ram Dhun was sung. A detachment of the first Travancore Infantry and a contingent of the State Police flanked the processional route. Some lakhs of people gathered at the beach and the entire ... fro ... wa ... mass of humanity.

of which were burning two huge brass lamps fed by ghee. A tastefully decorated pandal had been erected over the stone pedestal. Several hundreds of wreathes were placed by persons who had come from far and near. Ram Dhun and vedic hymns were sung; many people prostrated before the urn. There were quite a number of people who had moved to tears.

Immersion at Sangamam

At the appointed hour, the police and the military made a gangway for the ashes to be taken to the sea through the thick crowd. Sri Madhava Menon, Mrs. Madhava Menon, Sri P. G. Narayanan Unnithan, Dewan of Travancore, and Sri Pattom Thanu Pillai after a bath in the sea performed Pradakshinams round the urn and burnt incense before it. Hindu religious ceremonies were performed. Sri Madhava Menon carried the urn on his head to the sea, followed by the Dewan and others. The party proceeded about 20 yards into the waters on a catamaran and immersed the ashes in the holy Sangamam of the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. They brought water from the spot and sprinkled it on those around. When Gandhiji's ashes were immersed in the sea, the people were in tears. The Dewan, Sri Madhava Menon, and others were visibly moved. They were in tears when they returned after the immersion ceremony. The crowd dispersed peacefully after worshipping at the pedestal on which the urn was placed.

Mandapam to be erected

A mandapam will be erected in memory of Mahatma Gandhi at the place where the ashes were kept before immersion and plans are already under way. The stone pedestal on which the ashes were kept has become a sacred place now and thousands of people offer puja to it. As desired by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore the copper vessel in which the ashes were taken was handed over to the Travancore State where it will be preserved in the State Museum as a sacred relic. Thus ended a memorable event in the ... tory of India. The journey of the ... es of our nation's father th... e of 640 miles taki... final imme... Comori...

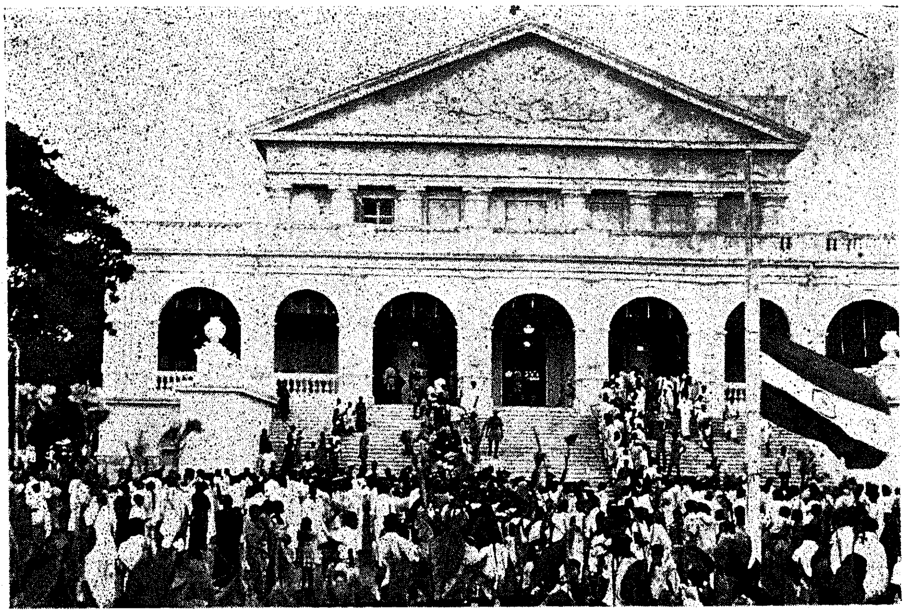
MADRAS

Desa Sevikas drawing the chariot from the Government House

His Excellency the Governor and the Hon'ble Premier were among those who followed the chariot carrying the 'urn'

The Immersion Ceremony at the Madras Beach

TOUCHING SCENES OF THE IMMERSION CEREMONY AT MADRAS

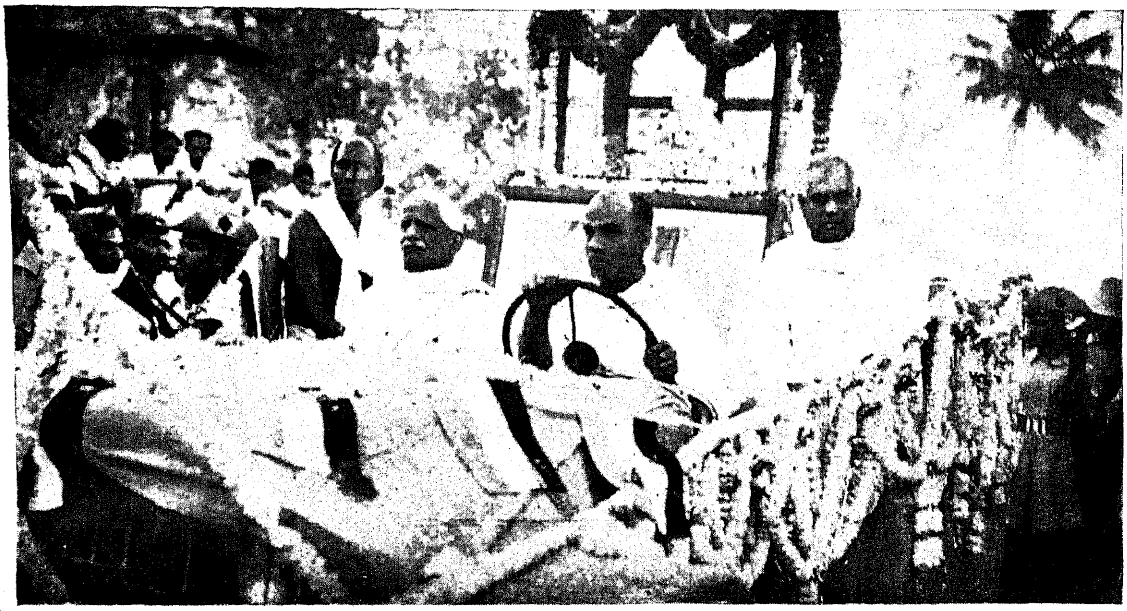


People standing in queue to have a darsan of Mahatmaji's ashes at the Banqueting Hall in the Government House.

Another view of the queue waiting to see Mahatmaji's ashes.

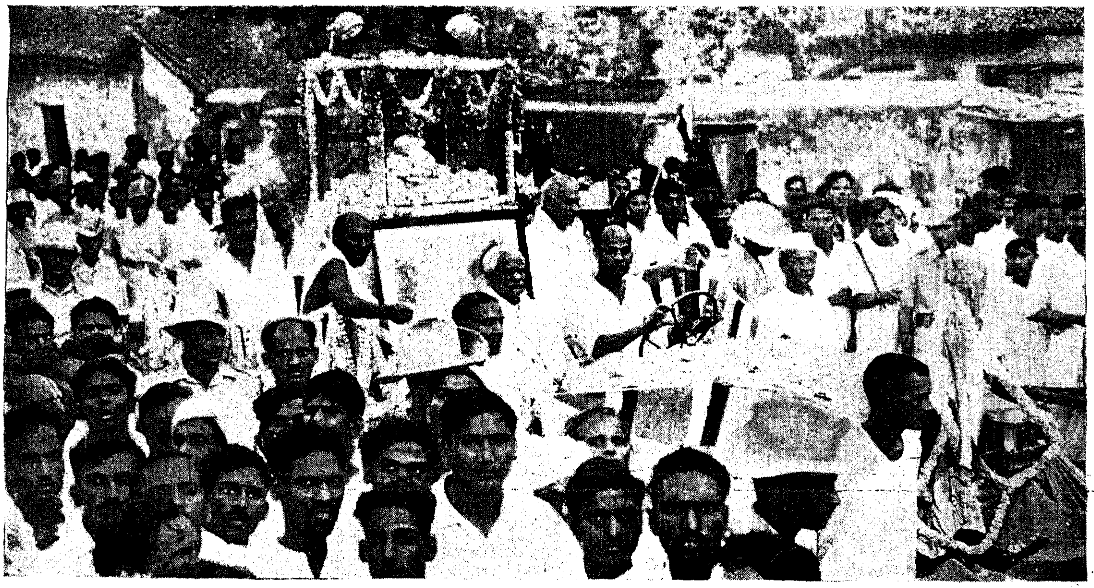
The ashes of Mahatma was taken out in a grand procession for immersion in the sea at Mylapore.

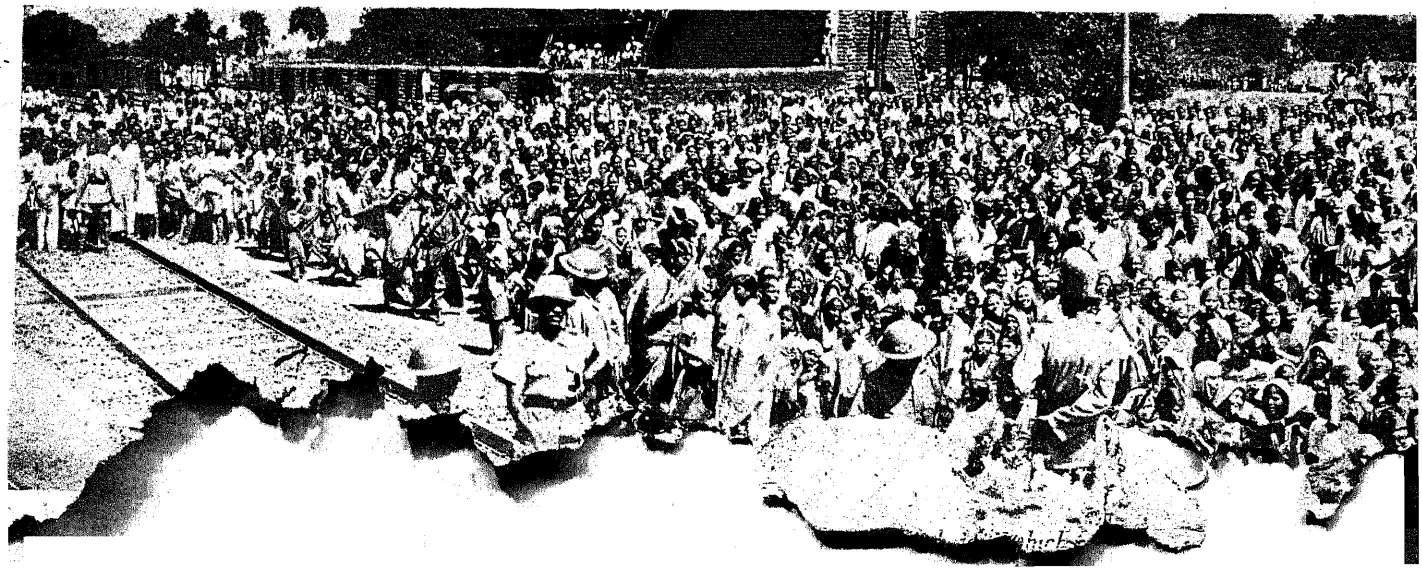
BEZWADA



Gandhiji's ashes were taken in procession for immersion followed by a huge crowd.

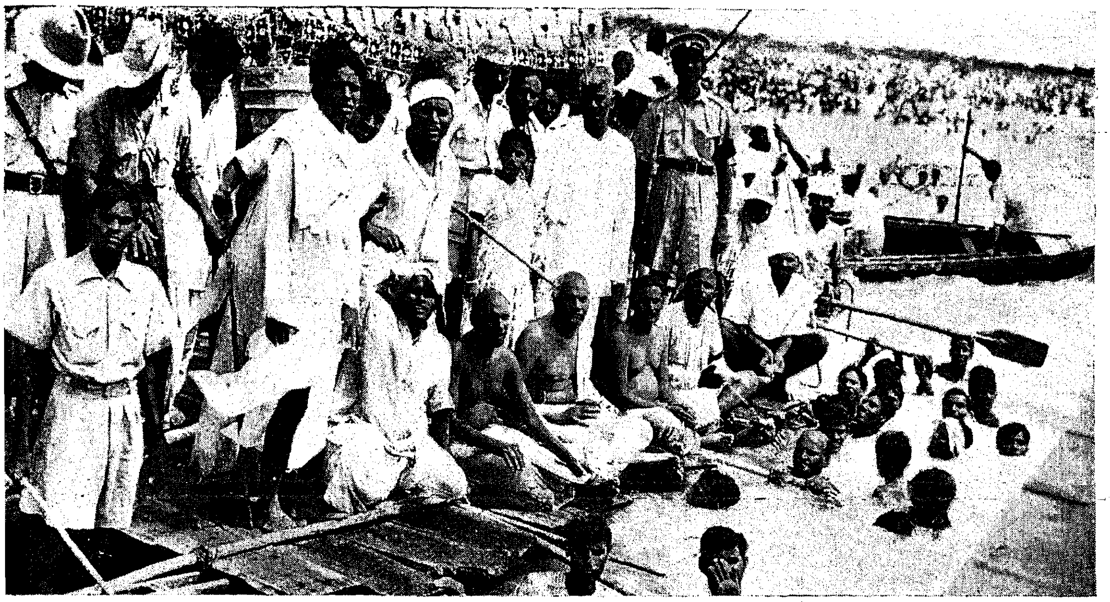
Another view of the procession.



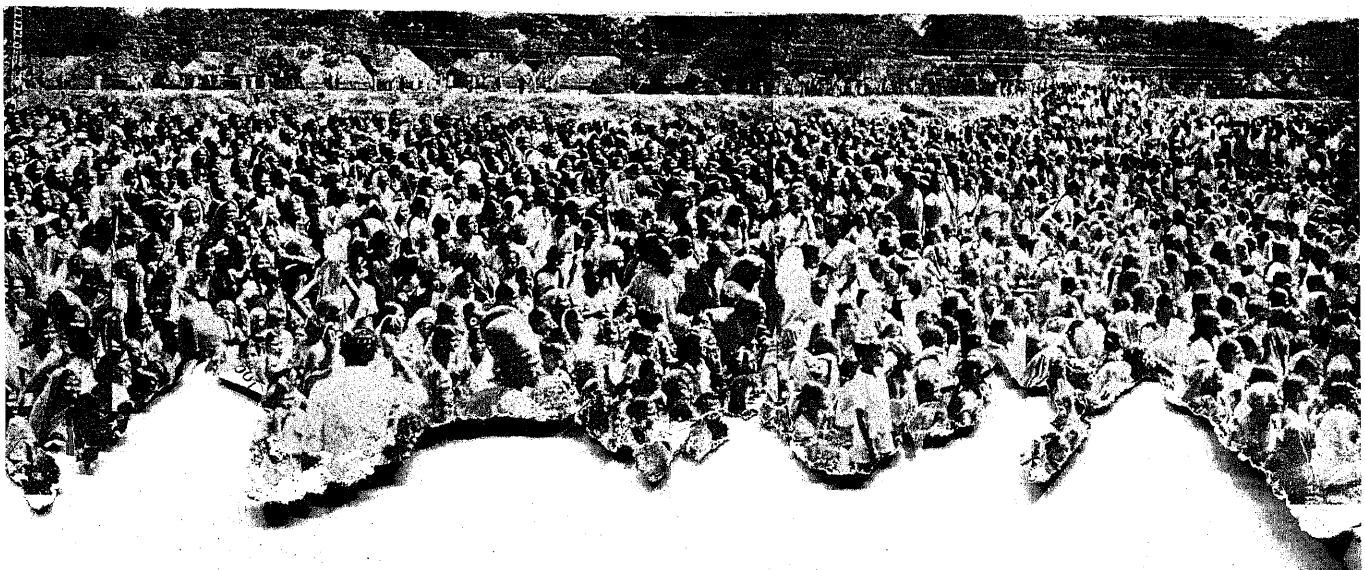


SCENES

Crowds anxiously awaiting to see Mahatma Gandhi's last remains as they were taken for immersion.

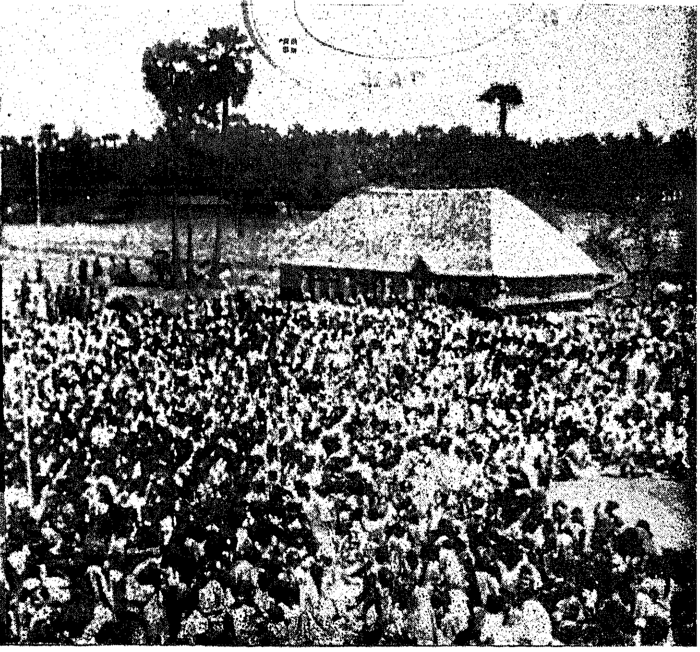


Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao and Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya, performing the immersion ceremony of Gandhiji's ashes at Kistna Ghat.

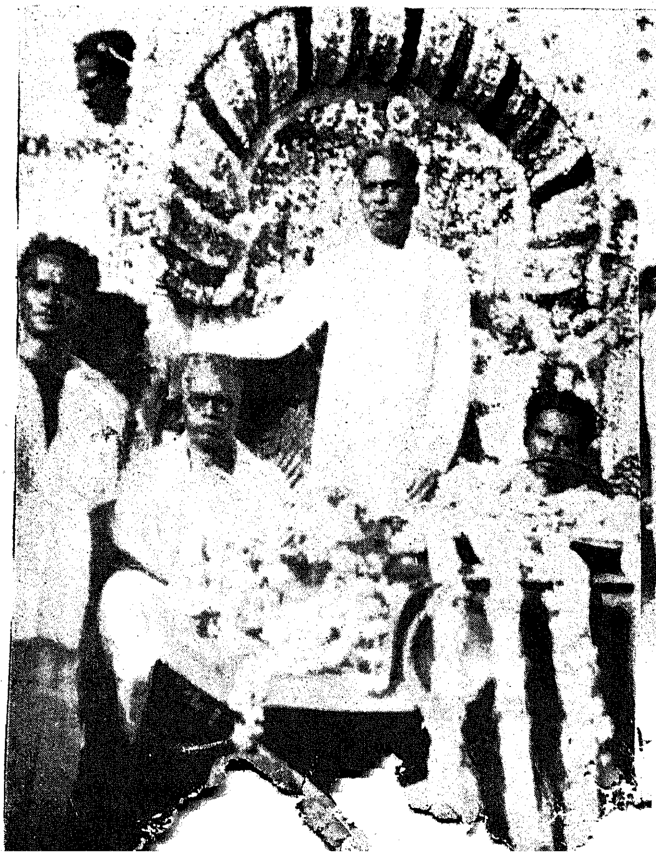


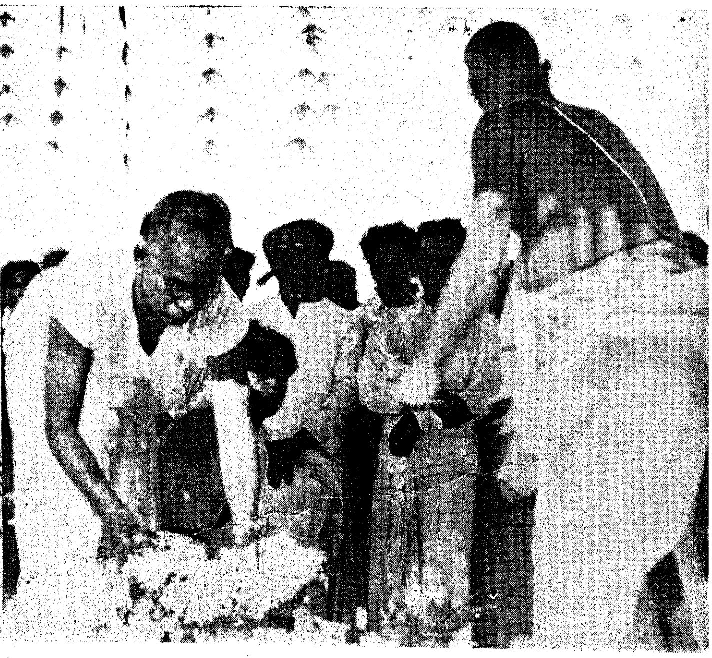
AT DHANUSHKODI

The urn is being shown to the vast crowd that had gathered at Manamadura Junction



The crowd waiting on the burning sands outside Manamadura Junction





The final ceremony at Dhanushkodi. Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam is seen garlanding the urn while the officiating pries[illegible]

The Journey to the Kistna

Over twenty lakhs of people paid their last homage to Mahatma Gandhi's ashes that were carried to Bezwada from Madras, and over three lakhs of people witnessed the immersion ceremoney in the Kistna at Bezwada. The journey and the ceremony were conducted with State honours. Two Ministers of the Government of Madras, the Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao and the Hon'ble Sri Vemula Kurmayya carried the ashes and performed the immersion ceremony with vedic rites. The journey from Madras to Bezwada and the ceremony were filmed. A running commentary on the ceremony at Bezwada by Sri M. Somasekhara Sarma was recorded on the spot by All-India Radio and relayed in the evening on 12th February 1948. Official and Non-official arrangements *en route* and at Bezwada were excellent and the entire programme was gone through according to plan without any untoward incident.

The last journey of the mortal remains of the Mahatma to Andhra began at 8 a.m. on 11th February 1948 in a Special Saloon attached to the Grand Trunk Express. The Saloon was decorated with tri-colour flags and flowers. Inside the saloon was arranged a wooden contrivance with a plank rolling on a ball-bearing. On the plank was fixed a wooden tray for placing the urn containing the ashes of the Mahatma. This tray could be moved out of the compartment on either side for the view of the people.

The decoration of the saloon and the special arrangements inside and outside the saloon on the platform were personally supervised by Mr. W. G. W. Reid, General Manager, M. & S.M. Railway.

The Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao, Revenue Minister, arrived at Madras Central from the Banqueting Hall, with the 'ashes' at 7-30 a.m. He was accompanied by his wife. The Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya and his wife were waiting at the Central Station to receive the Party.

On arrival, Mr. Reid, received the Minister. Wreaths were presented on behalf of the M. & S.M. Railway, the Railway Police and the Hyderabad State Congress. Lady volunteers of the Congress Seva Dal presented a Guard of Honour and [illegible]ducted the party to the Saloon [illegible] singing of "Ram Dhun." Ch[illegible] [illegible]m, the Reserve Police pr[illegible] [illegible]ard of Honour [illegible] Just b[illegible] [illegible]rture of the [illegible] O. P. Rama- [illegible] of [illegible]ras

and Hon'ble Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Public Works, arrived on the platform and gave a send off.

The Journey

The Grand Trunk Express steamed off the platform exactly at 8 a.m. on what turned out to be an historic procession of 269 miles, the entire route of which was queued up with thousands of men, women and children, paying their pathetic homage to the Father of the Nation, with cries of 'Bapuji' emerging out of their painful, choked throats, renting the air, with bursting tears, showering flowers and burning incense. Many offered coconuts and fruit as to a deity and demanded "Prasadam". Where the train did not stop, the people raised their folded hands and pointed towards the urn containing the ashes of the Beloved One dashing past them at 40 miles an hour. Whereever there were larger crowds the train went by slowly. Mothers with children in their arms pointed the passing urn to the little ones, whom the Great One loved so much, covered their faces with cloth and burst into tears. A lame man with one leg, was limping his way towards the Saloon to have darshan of the "ashes."

Inside the saloon, Sri Guduri Ramachandrudu, a disciple of Gandhiji, was reciting the Geeta. He recited it thrice over in the course of the journey. Sri M. Bapineedu and Sri B. S. Murti, Members of the Legislative Assembly, chanted "Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram." Sri G. Brahmayya escorted the "ashes" on behalf of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee. Mr. R. S. Sarma, Deputy Traffic Manager, M. & S.M. Railway escorted the Party on behalf of the Railway. Special police and military were also travelling in the compartment adjoining the Special Saloon.

The train passed through three districts, Chingleput, Nellore and Guntur. At all the stops the District and Local Officials, Rrepresentatives of the Local Congress, Communist, Kisan, Harijan and Labour Organisations and Educational Institutions were present. Members of the Legislature boarded the train when it passed through their constituencies. District Officials waited at advance stations t[illegible] [illegible]atch up the train and escort it thro[illegible] [illegible]n their areas. Arrangements for regul[illegible]ting the vast crowds [illegible] behave[illegible] orderly manner w[illegible] at S[illegible]lurpet, Gu[illegible] gunta, Ongol[illegible]

The biggest crowds were at Chirala and Tenali.

The train was scheduled to stop at eight or nine places *en route* including Ponneri the only station in Chingleput district, but the great devotion of a determined people made it stop at fifteen other stations. They were, Nayudupet, Pandugupadu, Musunur, Kavali, Vetapalam, Bapatla, Appikatla, Machavaram, Nidubrolu, Modukuru Chunduru, Kolakaluturu, Duggirala, Chilavuru and Pedavadlapudi. It was almost dark as the train reached the later stations and the crowds kept the vigil with torches and petromax lights. The urn carrying the ashes was lit up and was well in view of the crowds. Despite this the train reached Bezwada only 150 minutes late. The Engine of the train which was decorated with tri-colour flags was driven from Madras to Bitragunta by Mr. Martin and from Bitragunta to Bezwada by Mr. Johnson. The guard was Mr. Fetcher. Mr. C. Krishna Ayyar, was the Traffic Inspector on duty.

On the platform was waiting along with overflowing crowds, a decorated chariot to carry the "ashes" to their last resting place before immersion. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, who, as Secretary of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, conducted Mahatma Gandhi's last tour in Andhra in 1946, this time stepped out of the train with the Mahatma's ashes and held them high over his shoulder so that the vast crowds may see them. The Malabar Special Police presented a guard of honour after which the chariot carrying the ashes was taken in a three mile long procession to the Special Pandal on the Bandar Road, where it was kept the whole night, for the view of the endless streams of people, men, women and children.

The Ceremony

The arrangements in Bezwada were under the personal supervision of Mr. R. S. Malayappan, District Collector, Kistna, and Mr. T. V. S. Chalapathi Rao, Municipal Chairman, Mr. J. Devasahayam, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, North Range, was in charge of Police arrangements. The Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and other organisations co-operated with the local and District authorities. Prof. N. G. Ranga, President, Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, and a [illegible]ember of th[illegible] Congress Working Committee, rushe[illegible] [illegible]n to Bezwada to take part i[illegible] [illegible]y. Sri Erneni [illegible] in the District [illegible]eswara

Party throughout the procession and the ceremony.

Early in the morning the "ashes" were taken in procession along a ten-mile route through the old and the new towns and taken to the bank of the Holy Kistna. The Vedic rites were conducted on a raised platform in the presence of more than three lakhs of people, most of whom had a bath in the river as they do at the death of a kinsman. The emotions of the crowds reached a high pitch and the cries of 'Bapuji' reached a crescendo, when the "ashes" were taken for immersion in the mid-stream. A decorated boat was ready for this and as the Ministers boarded it and were sailing deeper into the river the entire crowd on the sands burst into sobs. The "ashes" were immersed to the chanting of Vedic Mantras.

The All-India Radio Commentor was heard to say:

"Two thousands years ago on the shores of this holy river at Nagarjuna Konda, were interred the Bones of Gautama the Budha. Today in these Holy waters are immersed the 'ashes of Gandhiji' the Mahatma."

Talks and Articles

The General Sales Tax Act

Incidence and Implications

[There is good deal of criticism of the sales tax. Of course, few taxes are popular and this is only natural. But taxes are inevitable. The motives behind the taxation policy have to be correctly understood. When the sales tax was first introduced there was a lot of uproar but time has shown things in the proper perspective. The present broadcast by Hon'ble Sri B. Gopala Reddi is sure to disillusion many who have not correctly understood the incidence and implications of sales tax.]

The General Sales Tax of Madras is being administered by the Department for nearly nine years now and Government are deriving a steadily increasing revenue out of this source. Though the Commercial Taxes Department is still not made permanent I am sure the Sales Tax has come to stay in the Province and is bound to be a major head of revenue. During the war years the excise revenue far exceeded land revenue and reached the peak figure of 16 crores 80 lakhs of rupees in 1945-46, perhaps a high water-mark under excise revenue for any Provincial Government.

Background

Having accepted Prohibition as an essential part of our election manifesto, Congress is bound to implement it and do away with the entire revenue under provincial excise. Madras Government was the first to in[illegible]duce the General Sales Tax in [illegible] Madr[illegible] to-day get[illegible] of it. [illegible] a full financial year, the revenue is expected to be approximately Rs. 12 crores.

Though Sales Tax is very recent to Indian Provinces it was in vogue for a very long time in the continental countries like France and Germany and also in the American States though under different names. Government of India Act of 1935 gave power to Provinces to tax the sale of goods within the Provinces and it was left to His Excellency C. Rajagopalachariar, the then Premier of Madras, to take advantage of the provision in the Act to offset the loss due to Prohibition in the Province. Now several Provinces in Union of India have introduced Sales Tax in their Provinces and many Indian States too are following suit. The main feature that distinguishes our Act with the rest of the Indian Acts is that our Act contemplates taxation whenever goods change hands while other Acts defer collection of tax on all points and collect it from one source at a higher rate. Both have their advantages and disadvantages too. But Madras Act has the additional advantage of tracing up the flow of goods from hand to hand and enables officers to check and cross-check accounts. An expert Committee appointed by the Bombay Government also held the view that taxation at multiple point is better than the method of collecting the tax at single point.

We, who a[illegible]verse to direct taxation must [illegible]orce take recourse to [illegible] and certainly Sales [illegible] [c]onsumers without [illegible] carefully the normal trade channels will be disturbed violently and the entire contour of trade may be upset. But it is also gratifying to find that trade is generally conservative and does not lend itself to changes easily. Migration of trade does not occur normally and the usual threat that our trade would be driven away to neighbouring Provinces and States had not come true. But a good deal of vigilance on the part of the Government is necessary and therefore the Government have assured the public that they would set up a Standing Advisory Committee to go into particular cases in particular localities and an Appellate Tribunal to see that no unnecessary hardship is caused to the assessees.

Other Commercial Taxes

There are four other commercial taxes that were enacted in 1939—the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Tax, under which we are paying four annas for every gallon of petrol consumed in the Province, the Entertainments Tax, under which all gate collections for entertainments are subject to varying rates of taxation and 90 per cent of the proceeds of which is being made over to the Local Bodies since 1945, and a tax on the distributors of electrical energy above a certain level. The Madras Tobacco Tax is not being levied since April 1944 as the Central Government is levying an excise duty on tobacco and paying a compensation of Rs. 22 lakhs per year to this Government. The Provincial Government felt that this Rs. 22 lakhs is very inadequate in view of the growing trade and abnormal rise in prices in tobacco in the Province and urged the Government of India to pay us a larger amount or to give us half of their excise duty on tobacco which will come to about Rs. 150 lakhs. [illegible] is now engaging the attention of t[illegible] Sub-Committee of the Constitu[illegible] [illegible]bly which is to go into the [illegible] of finance between the [illegible] [illegible]rovinces.

[illegible] Sales Tax [illegible] [illegible]es

the Madras General Sales Tax Act as it was enacted in 1939 and as amended in 1947. In the original Act a flat five rupees rate per mensem was levied when the turnover was Rs. 10,000 and above, but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 a year, and when the turnover exceeded Rs. 20,000 per year, half per cent of the turnover was the tax collected. But in the recent amendment all turnovers above Rs. 10,000 are made to pay a percentage tax at 1/9th per 100 on the turnover. Further, dealers whether assessed, licensed or not, having a turnover of Rs. 7,500 and more are required to register themselves as such on application and payment of Rs. 6 and continue to pay Rs. 6 per year until the registration is cancelled. There is provision for such cancellation if the turnover in each of the two consecutive years was less than Rs. 7,500. It has further been provided that only registered dealers may collect sales tax and the tax so collected shall be paid to Government. This will enable Government to tighten up their check and see that no evasion is possible normally.

Up to now there was an uniform rate of tax of one per cent on turnovers over Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 96 and Rs. 144 per annum on turnovers between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 15,000. For the first time in the course of these nine years the Government have proposed to levy differential rate of tax on different commodities. In respect of certain specified class of goods, which may be referred to as luxury goods, a tax at the rate of three pies or six pies, as the case may be, on every rupee of the turn over, in addition to the general tax of three pies in the rupee, is payable at the stage of sale by the first dealer liable to tax. Cinematograph, photograph and other cameras, all electrical goods, pen and pencil sets sold for Rs. 20 or more, clocks, time-pieces and watches and parts thereof, will bear the additional tax of three pies in the rupee at the first sale and motor cars and accessories, refrigerators and air-conditioning plants will bear the additional tax of six pies in the rupee. These additional taxes will be levied only at the first sale of the goods in the Province successive stages bearing only the general rate of three pies in the rupee.

Hitherto the transactions in bullion were exempted from payment of tax. In future a small percentage of ¼ per cent at the first stage of sale in the Province shall be levied on the person liable for assessment. Cotton yarn has been exempt similarly uptill now. But in future it will be subject to taxation at two stages, (1) on the sale by the quota-holders and (2) by wholesalers. Each of them will pay a tax of ¼ per cent only. Exclusive dealings in handloom cloth have been exempt till now. But from 1st January 1948 such exemptions will apply to only wholesale dealings in the said cloth. All sales by one dealer to another shall be exempt and also sale for delivery outside the Province. But sales to the consumer will be subject to tax of three pies in the rupee. Cloth woven on handlooms with hand-spun yarn, namely, Khadi, shall be exempt if the dealings are exclusively in such cloth. Otherwise it will be subject to taxation at the usual rate of three pies in the rupee. The exemptions in respect of cotton continues to be in force and hand-spun yarn also will enjoy similar concession. Hides and skins will continue to enjoy the benefit of singlepoint taxation and this concession has been extended to newspapers also. In future newspapers will be taxed only at the first stage of sale. Till now tea grown by the seller or grown in any land in which he has interest was exempt from taxation. Hereafter the sale of such tea by the grower will also be subject to taxation; but sale for delivery outside the Province will not be taxed.

Deductions of turn overs have been allowed till now in respect of the amount paid as excise duty to Central Government in the case of sales of sugar, matches, rubber-tyres and tubes. This concession has been extended to other goods also which pay similar excise duty to the Central Government. Freight, charges for packing and delivery and other similar services have been included in the turnover till now. In future, if they are specified and charged separately without being included in the price of goods sold they will be excluded from taxation. Vegetables and fruits will continue to enjoy the benefit of slab rate assessment if the turn over is between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 20,000.

Hitherto no export can be taxed if the sales connected with the export are effected outside the Province even though the goods relating to such sales happen to be within; but under the amended Act wherever the contract for sale takes place, if the goods happen to be within the Province, the sale would be deemed to have taken place in the Province and it shall be liable to taxation. But tea, handloom cloth and raw jute have been specially excluded from the operation of this section of the Act.

So far no tax was levied on goods applied to a contract. In future goods applied to a contract in the construction, improvement and repair to immovable property, etc., will also be subject to taxation. This is the first time that transactions of this kind are brought under the purview of the Madras General Sales Tax Act and this is in consonance with the practice obtained in other provinces where Sales Tax Act is in force.

The exemptions enjoyed by the commission agents of the local principals will continue to be in force but the conditions have been made tight and accounts made elaborate to prevent dealers passing off as commission agents. The burden of proving that the transactions of the agent are eligible for the exemption shall in future lie on the claimant.

The endeavour of the Government is to derive maximum benefit with minimum hardship and inconvenience to dealers and consumers.

—*By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.*

A Plan for Dealing with Juvenile Delinquency

By Lieut.-Col. J. FORD THOMPSON, *Adviser to the Government in Child Psychology*

In my last article I endeavoured to state the problem presented by juvenile delinquency, and now I propose briefly to su[illegible] the measures at present in force i[illegible] Province and then [illegible] which I propose to [illegible] the [illegible] Government for [illegible]eration [illegible]

At present the methods for dealing with the juvenile delinquents stem from the methods used in dealing with adult criminals. Certain changes have been made in recent years which are purely superficial and do not really affect the system, which is in [illegible] the same as that used w[illegible] adults.

Little has been done to educate the public as to their responsibilities with regard to the be[illegible]viour and upbringing of their children. Nothing has been done to [illegible] the teacher in methods of [illegible]ining. Thus the [illegible] [illegible]ile delin[illegible] que[illegible] [illegible]ng wit[illegible]

the exception of work done by such organizations as the Scouts, Girl Guides, Y.M.C.A. Youth Activities and similar private bodies.

As regards the judicial side, juvenile courts are conducted by magistrates who, with all due respect, have had little in the way of special training in dealing with children. The tendency is to place the child on probation or to commit him to a certified school for a number of years. The probation system, in its present form, is grossly inadequate to deal with its tasks. The Probation Officers have a dual function in that they are expected to deal with adults on probation as well as with children on probation. There are too many cases to deal with per Probation Officer and these cases are frequently widely scattered. In addition, these officers have, again with due respect to them, little special training in dealing with problems of child behaviour.

When we come to consider the certified schools where children are sent for a period of training, one finds that the organization and structure, and even buildings in some cases, are based on the jail pattern. There are warders (called Petty Officers); there are bars on the doors and windows; the children are dressed in jail clothes and are known by members rather than by names.

The teaching of school subjects and crafts is generally grossly inadequate, and boys leave the schools generally unfitted to take up any employment other than that of labourer. Here I may interpolate that I have with me at the moment a boy who spent six years in certified schools. He cannot write or read, and he has no sound knowledge of the craft he was supposed to learn. It is not that this boy is unintelligent—he is a bright boy; the reason why he is so poorly educated must lie at the door of the certified schools.

Even more important than the lack of educational facilities which would so train a boy, that on discharge he would be able to earn a reasonable living, is the fact that there is no real system of character training in force. This is obviously, in a school designed ostensibly to reform delinquent children, a matter of the first importance, because if these children are not reformed and rehab[illegible]ated these schools are failing in [illegible]eir primary purpose. I have aske[illegible] children their opinions a[illegible]r not a certified sc[illegible] bad boy good a[illegible] "No; it would make a good boy bad, and a bad boy worse."

One at least of the certified schools is grossly over-crowded with the result that such facilities as there are for education are inadequate to cope with the numbers involved. This means that the whole efficiency of education must drop even lower. In some cases the facilities for games and recreation are grossly inadequate. For example one school with over 600 boys has only one football pitch. There are no recreation and reading rooms in any of the schools and the children spend such free time as they have mooning about.

Let us consider some of the rules at present in force in certified schools. In accordance with jail tradition boys are not allowed to possess personal property other than their clothes and a small piece of soap. How is it possible to train boys to take their places in a world where everyone possesses some personal property and usually desires to possess more, without allowing him to keep any during the years which he spends in one of these schools? All that this rule does is to produce in a boy an intense craving to possess things of his own which may well stimulate him to theft on his release.

Take another example. Boys are not allowed to possess money in the school and any money a boy may be given by visiting relatives is impounded and placed in what is known as his Mark Money Account. How is it possible to train a boy for life in a world where money is so important, when he has never been given an opportunity to handle it properly during the years he is confined in one of these schools? Again there is a strong incentive to steal on release.

The above rules have obviously been designed to keep temptation away from the boys while they are in school. It is easy to see that where large numbers of delinquents are collected together, a good deal of theft is likely to occur, were personal possessions permitted.

This policy is carried out to such an extent that boys are not even permitted to have pockets in their clothes. How much this is resented by the children is shown by the fact that boys are constantly being detected trying to alter their clothes in such a way as to make pockets.

Keeping temptation away is no way to train anyone, for training must be directed towards the individual's becoming able to resist temptation. If a boy is to be [illegible]ed not to steal he must be given the opportunity to steal. Let me give an example. If a boy, very addicted to theft, were locked up in a single cell for six months, it would be useless to say "Look how much this boy has improved. He has not stolen for six months". That is what the certified schools are in fact doing. The opportunity to commit wrong must always be there, if training is to mean anything at all.

There is a most cumbersome system in vogue in these schools called the Mark Money Account. The boys are able to earn a few annas per week by good conduct, work done, etc. As a punishment they may be fined by having a sum deducted from the Mark Money Account, or they may be rewarded by having some additional money placed to their account. On the boy's discharge from school this money is handed over to a responsible person to use for the benefit of the child. Even after six years the boy I referred to above had only Rs.15-15-0 in his account. This is a small sum which can hardly provide him with food for a month. How is a boy on his discharge from a certified school, unable to read and write, master of no craft, and with total possessions amounting to some sixteen rupees, expected to find his way in the world? What are his prospects? Have the certified schools done a good job on him? The keeping of the Mark Money Account involves much labour, since it is a complicated system. As a means of reward and punishment, it is completely and utterly useless. When a boy after spending three or four or more years in a certified school will not even be able to receive this money into his own hands, what does he care whether money is taken out, or put into this abstract account? From whatever angle one views if this system of Mark Money is useless, and it is not only useless; it is actually bad!

At present the certified schools do little more than segregate the delinquent children. This is not all; for in the absence of systematic character training a boy may quite well come out of them worse than when he went in. It is, therefore, obvious that the money spent by Government on these schools, as at present constituted, is waste, since boys are not turned out educationally qualified to stand on their own feet—nor have they been characterologically trained to withstand the manifold temptations of the outside world. It is *not altog*[illegible] the fault *of the* people who are c[illegible] *with the training* of these child[illegible]

the schools, that they are so ineffective; most of the blame must be laid on the system which is founded upon jail practice. I shall not dilate more on the inadequacies of the Certified Schools. I have only spoken of them in this derogatory fashion, because it is necessary to show cause why reforms are so urgently needed. Now I propose to go on to discuss in broad outline the nature of the plans which I am proposing to submit to Government.

In considering the many problems which present themselves and the many obstacles which rear themselves in the path of idealism, one must always keep in mind the practical aspect. It would be of little value for me to make an ideal plan which was from the practical point of view impossible, as also from the financial standpoint. It will be understood, therefore, that the plans which I am going to discuss will be a mixture of realism and idealism.

We must first consider the preventive aspect of juvenile delinquency and this question is bound up with the much larger question of character training for all children. The first step must, of necessity be an attempt to educate the public with regard to the duties and responsibilities of parents towards their children and society. It is little realized that the way children are brought up has a profound effect on the type of adults produced. We shall, therefore, endeavour by every means of education in our power to pursue this end—I hesitate to use the word 'propaganda' because now-a-days that word seems to connote distortion or over-emphasis of facts if not down-right untruth; I prefer the word 'education'. This can be done in a variety of ways including the use of the Press, Radio and documentary films.

The teacher, rather than the parent should be the directing influence as regards the systematic character training of the school child. This is because a parent cannot spare the time to make himself, or herself, conversant with methods of character training. It is, however, the teacher's profession to train children and with the teacher directing operations, as it were, and parents co-operating fully, substantial results can be expected. I should like to see parent-teacher associations in connection with every school.

Next, we have to consider the child [illegible] does not go to school. For him [illegible] consider that children's clubs [illegible]

reason why these clubs cannot be instituted in every village and in every street in every town, using the resources of the locality served by the club. The leaders of these clubs would have to undergo a short course of training in how to run them. These leaders would be expected to work in close co-operation with the parents and would have to be invested with the parental powers, which the parents normally delegate to the schoolmaster. It is, of course, not envisaged that these clubs will spring up overnight everywhere; but once a start is made, they can be extended as rapidly as possible.

Now comes the problem of the destitute children, of whom there are several lakhs in this province. The first thing to realize is that it is economically impossible for the Government to build schools to accommodate them all as boarders, however desirable that may be in theory. No doubt Government will endeavour to increase the number of boarding schools under its control as rapidly as possible, but for many years to come one must accept the fact that complete institutionalisation of these children is impossible. What, then, is the answer! Something obviously must be attempted. To my mind there is only one answer, and that is that the five crores of people in this province must have their consciences so aroused that these children will be taken into private families and cared for. I don't ask anybody to do something which I am not willing to do myself, and at the moment I am looking after three such children. Surely, it is not too much to ask that a great province like Madras should find sufficient families to look after these poor and destitute children.

Next we come to the judicial side of the question. The present Juvenile Courts are most unsatisfactory. The child does not readily respond to a cold and judicial atmosphere. The child wants warmth and friendliness, and kindness from someone he loves. I shall propose that special magistrates be appointed, to deal with all cases where children have transgressed the law of the land. These magistrates should have undergone a special course of training, and should be men and women who have deep sympathy and liking for the children. I envisage a Children's Court which will be more like a Children's Club with the magistrate in the position of an uncle or big brother. I envisage the sweeping away [illegible]

I envisage these magistrates as being invested with parental powers so that a magistrate will, if it be necessary, punish the child as a father, or, should a child's environment be so bad that he has little chance of improving, he should be able to suggest that the child should become a ward of the Government until he or she reaches the age of twenty-one. I envisage the appointment of an officer of Government to be guardian of all Government wards. It will be he, with his advisers, who will decide whether Government should accept the guardianship of any child when application is made by Magistrates. This provision is necessary because I shall propose that the number of children in any one Certified School should under no circumstances exceed 400. This means that until more schools can be opened, the accommodation will be limited. The only exception to the above procedure which I shall propose is where a child has committed a serious felony such as murder. In such a case the magistrate will be able to accept the child as a ward of Government without reference to the Guardian of Government Wards. It is proposed that these children's Magistrates would be peripatetic and should hold their courts should be held in a children's centre where the local club leaders and parents can meet and the Magistrate shall act as a guide and adviser to them on any problems presented by children in the area.

Once a child is accepted as a ward of Government he will remain so until he or she attains the 21st birthday. Government may send one of its wards to a Government Boarding School *not* a "Certified" school, or any delegate its guardianship to anyone whom it regards as a fit and proper person to take charge of the child.

Normally when a child goes to a Government Boarding School he or she will not leave the school until he or she has either passed the S.S.L.C. Examination, or passed a Government trade test. The structure, constitution and administration of Government Boarding Schools must, in my opinion, be radically different from that which at present obtain in the Certified Schools. First, the children must in every respect be regarded as students and not as prisoners. This means that the school buildings should be those of a school and not a [illegible] there must be nobody in the [illegible] Warder or Petty Offic[illegible] be replaced [illegible]peons.

school uniform of which the boys and girls can be proud. The children should have a little pocket money weekly. The Mark Money Account should be abolished. There should be a school shop within the school where they can buy sweetmeats, pencils, note-books, and so on, for their own use. Each child should have his own box in which he may keep his personal possessions. The distinction between Senior and Junior Certified Schools should go, together with age-limits and differences in diets. Teachers must take a much bigger part in the life of the school than they have done hitherto, taking part in games and other extra curricular activities.

As regards the educational side, I shall propose that each child on his attaining the age of twelve, or achieving literacy, shall be 'screened' by the board of teachers, and a decision made as to the child's future educational training. A clever boy who wishes to proceed with his studies should be put on wholetime school work and should pass his Middle school examination while in a Government Boarding School. His education to S.S.L.C. standard should thereafter take place in a local high school, the child returning to his Boarding School each evening. I estimate that ten per cent of students in Government Boarding Schools will be worth this academic training. After the S.S.L.C. has been passed, a small percentage should be chosen for study in Colleges dependent on ability. Others may possibly be trained in Shorthand and Typing or for employment as teachers.

Those children who have not been chosen for a scholastic career should be selected for training in a trade. Thereafter the child should work wholetime (apart from educational lectures, etc.) at his chosen vocation. This training should continue until the child has passed a Government trade test and is fit to take his place in society as a skilled craftsman.

The character training side of things will be entirely in the hands of a teacher of the status of Assistant Headmaster who will be responsible for the character training of the children in the school. I shall not enter here into details of this training, but hope to do so in a subsequent article.

Every ... have ample opportu... games and health... room ...

Now comes the question of after-care. The reason why I have suggested the age of 21 as the child's majority for the purpose of this plan is that after the child has undergone his training, Government will be able to supervise his activities until he is securely settled in life. If the proposals described are carried out, every child leaving a Government School will be employable, and it would not be difficult for an after-care organization to place every child in suitable employment—the most suitable employer being the Government which has reclaimed and trained them. If they have been happy in their childhood, they will feel a debt of gratitude to the Government which looked after them and will make loyal Government servants.

This plan which I have sketched in rough outline has one great virtue, namely, that nearly every child accepted by Government for training will be turned out fitted both educationally and chracterologically to take his or her place in society as a self-respecting individual. It will be possible to accept fewer children into the Government Boarding Schools than at present pass through the Certified Schools ; but positive results will be achieved, whereas at present practically no results are obtained. It is better to train 1,600 children adequately and properly than to have a population in the Certified Schools of up to 3,000 undergoing little, if any, training. Once this plan was in operation, Government could open new schools on the same lines as and when it became financially possible.

In order to train Children's Magistrates, teachers, club leaders and the like, it will be proposed that a teaching establishment be instituted and attached to one of the Government Boarding Schools so that practical and theoretical training may be given in the character training of children. It would always be possible for a Government to multiply these training institutions for teachers as finance became available.

I should be glad to hear comments and criticisms on the above skeleton plan from any of the public who have a special interest in these matters. A letter to the Adviser in Child Psychology to the Government of Madras care of the Director of Publicity, Fort St. George, will always reach me.

(*Continued from page* 8)

expected to be put on the road from the first week of March 1948.

Neidalure Land Colonisation Scheme—All the lands except a few have cultivated and paddy is being harvested. The outturn is fair.

Vocational Training.—There are two instructors in the grade of fieldmen and the training in agricultural operations is being taught. As there is a separate Secretary for the colony from 22nd January 1948. I am asking him to report direct to the Government any other particulars which are required for publication.

Policies and Pronouncements

U.P. Governor on Agriculture

Knowledge not applied to life was a waste of money, and energy, observed Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Governor, addressing recently the Agricultural College students on the occasion of the annual prize distribution function of the college.

She wanted every student to believe that he was a part of a great economic regeneration. She advised the young students of the college to act wisely and courageously for the service of their country so that their culture and tradition might be remembered for centuries to come.

Mrs. Naidu said that the plough had been one of the more enduring symbols of civilization. And wherever the plough went, the cottage industry went with it. The plough and the spinning wheel had been the symbols of human industry in our country. "India was a land whose tradition had been a large-scale agricultural production."

Though India had plenty of agricultural land, Indians were starved. Those who worked on fields, our "annadatas," were starved. Why was it so? Why were we without health, without power of resistance? There must be some reason for all that. Was it that we had outlived our traditioned methods of agricultural production?

Mrs. Naidu said that old methods of production must give place to new scientifically specialized methods and that our young men should turn to agriculture. There were lawyers without clients and doctors without patients, but the agriculturists had vast fields of service open before them. If a nation had to progress, improved and specialized methods of production had to be introduced. When there was plenty of food our standard of living would rise and with it the general tone of morality and the morale of the country. We must know how to adjust our production to demand.

* * *

On Compost-Making

Messages wishing success to the compost-making drive of the U.P. Government, were received from leaders.

Mahatma Gandhi wrote: "Compost means production of food from dust and saving crores of rupees. Will the Indian kisans learn this magic?"

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said: "We fought the battle of freedom and achieved it. But *swaraj* cannot be completed unless the difficulties of the people are removed and there is proper arrangement for food, cloth, houses and education. We have to fight another battle to remove the poverty of the masses. In this battle we have not to fight against anybody else but to work in a way which would increase production. The number of kisans is the largest in this country and agriculture is our main industry. Similar to other countries it is necessary to increase the fertility of the land to bring prosperity to the peasants and the country. U.P.'s Development Minister has indicated the way by which production can be increased through the manufacture of compost. I support the drive wholeheartedly and hope that the kisans and zamindars will help the drive to improve their condition."

Dr. Rajendra Prasad said: "Cow-dung is not utilized in our country as it should be. Most of it is burnt and much more is wasted. Some of it which is utilized as fertilizer is not used in a way which could give highest benefits. There should be a campaign for the utilization of all such things which spread dirt and disease but can be best utilized as fertilizers to increase our food production. U.P. Government's efforts in this direction are highly commendable, and I wish them success. If the work is properly done we can increase the production in one year."

* * *

On Home Guards

"All of us believe that India has a great and glorious future in front of her and each of you who has joined the home Guards is contributing to make that future great and glorious," said the Governor-General of India, Lord Louis Mountbatten, presenting colours to the C.P. and Berar Homeguards at a ceremonial parade recently.

Merits of Co-operative Methods

That the Co-operative method should be the harbinger of communal peace in the country was expressed by Mr. V. L. Mehta, the Minister for Finance, Co-operation and Agriculture, while performing the opening ceremony of a branch of the Bombay Muslim Co-operative Bank. He observed that throughout the world there were nearly 20,000 co-operative banks and India possesses 8,000 such banks. Co-operative Banks should receive further impetus from Hindus and Muslims as they would be helpful in removing the communal virus which had begun to find its way into this field as well. Mr. Morarji R. Desai, who also addressed the gathering, said that the successful running of co-operative banks such as the Muslim Co-operative Bank would only materialize if Hindus as well as Muslims jointly entered the co-operative movement. No communal co-operative banks should be countenanced. Only on this line could communalism be eradicated from all spheres of life.

* * *

Administration of the Communications Branch of P.W.D.

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Communications Branch of the Public Works Department, Government of Madras, for 1945–46:—

The Government decided to take over from district boards and municipalities the maintenance of all trunk roads and important feeder roads, as the local bodies with their inelastic finances and pre-occupation with other important civic duties were not in a position to devote sufficient money and attention to the maintenance and improvement of these roads. Accordingly the Communications Department was reconstituted as the Highways Department which was, however, to function separately as before, with a Chief Engineer, six Superintending Engineers and 37 Divisional Engineers.

A scheme for road development in the province on the general outlines given in the Chief Engineers' Conference held at Nagpur in December 1943 was drawn up for 15 years, as decided and approved by the Post-War Sub-Committee for Communications. This programme was to consist of four phases, phase I of 2 years, phase II of 3 years and phases III and IV each of five years duration in succession. A detailed five-year plan for the first two phases was also drawn up. A scheme was also drawn up for the employment of demobilized so[illegible] roadworks and Government a[illegible]formation of labour con[illegible]for the exer[illegible]

81 estimates of the aggregate value of about Rs. 1,85,00,000 were dealt with in the technical section of the Chief Engineer's Office, during the period under review. Of these 50 estimates related to roads, 6 to bridges and causeways and 25 to miscellaneous items such as purchase of furniture, etc. The approximate number of other miscellaneous references including tenders and agreements, etc., dealt with in technical section for the year 1945–46, apart from the estimates specified above is 2,400. Hundred estimates costing in the aggregate Rs. 60·14 lakhs were scrutinized in the offices of the Superintending Engineers (Communications). One thousand seven hundred and forty estimates for capital works, aggregating to Rs. 118·27 lakshs and 12,846 estimates for maintenance and repairs, aggregating to Rs. 266·41 lakhs (Rs. 266·41 lakhs) were sanctioned during the year under report in all the District Board Engineers' Offices in the province. The total expenditure on capital works in all the District Boards amounted to Rs. 29·28 lakhs. The total expenditure on maintenance in all the District Boards amounted to Rs. 148·08 lakhs. The total mileage of roads in charge of the Public Works Department during the year under report was 5,540 miles, as against 4,373 in the previous year, the excess of 1,167 miles representing the new roads taken over during the year. The total expenditure during the year on communications, works, repairs under all heads "Provincial," was Rs. 1,45,41,574 against an appropriation of Rs. 1,47,59,700.

A scheme of training local Road Engineers in foreign countries, sponsored by the Government of India, was pushed through and a batch of eight engineers left Madras on the 11th of April 1946 for an inspection of roads systems in England, France and United States of America. They are expected to study the general layout of the road systems, the history of road development, the road organization, and the financial policy, in addition to visiting important laboratories, workshops, scientific research stations and making valuable contacts with experts of these countries. It is expected that these officers on their return will be of great assistance in adapting modern developments to suit local conditions.

Prohibition News Letter

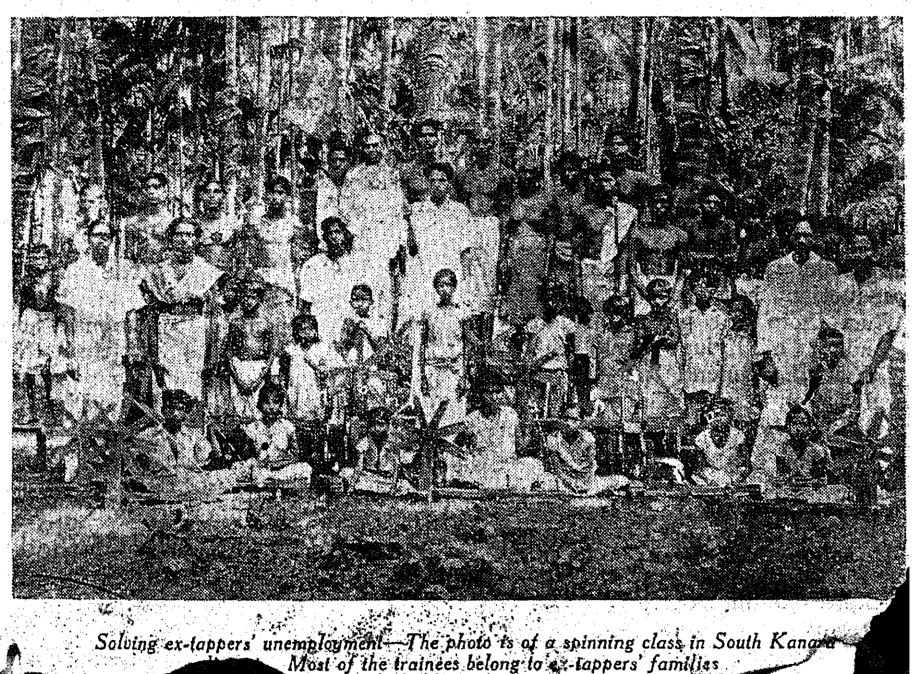
The following is a brief summary of the reports received on the ameliorative activities in the various prohibition districts :—

Nilgiris.—Under the auspices of the Gudalur Grama Sangham sports for school children were held on 21st January 1948. It was largely attended. There were 22 events including Chedugudu, Kummi and Kolattam. There was also a small poultry show. Earlier in the month, similar sports were held at Yedapalle. Running race for juniors, sack race, high jump, indigenous games, tug-of-war, kolattam, kummi, and needle race were among the principal events. The attendance at the sports was considerable. Thrift day was celebrated by distributing hundi boxes to the members of the Yedapalli Co-operative Society. An exhibition was held at Nundala village by the Agricultural Department and the occasion was availed of to celebrate a thrift day by the distribution of hundi boxes. A Rural Uplift School for giving training to youngmen drawn from the villages of Coonoor Revenue Division was inaugurated on 30th January.

Chittoor.—Rural games were conducted in three villages in Chittoor division. Two [illegible]rka tournaments were also conducte[illegible] [illegible]re were also folk dance, p[illegible] [illegible] and Pandari bhajan[illegible] [illegible]ves of eight Harij[illegible] [illegible]kummi dance were given prizes. Bhajanas were also conducted in several places in Chittoor division, and Harikathas performed by ballad singers. Thrift day was celebrated in Madanapalle division and six hundi boxes were distributed afresh.

South Kanara.—During January the special development officer convened a meeting of the jaggery manufacturing societies of Mangalore division at Mangalore. Representatives of 16 societies attended the meeting. Subjects relating to finance, accounts keeping and marketing of jaggery were discussed. Another conference also of jaggery manufacturers took place during the month. It was decided that all the jaggery manufacturing societies should follow a uniform policy and that they should not compete with one another to bring down prices. Thrift day was also celebrated in one place and 40 hundi boxes were distributed.

Coimbatore.—Rural sports were held on a big scale at Myleripalayam on 26th January. About 3,000 people attended. There were competitions



Solving ex-tappers' unemployment—The photo is of a spinning class in South Kana[illegible] [illegible] Most of the trainees belong to ex-tappers' families

in chadugudu, tug-of-war, folk dance, physical feats, etc., and a large number of people participated in the several events. Rural sports were also held at Kalapatti. Gobi, firka tournament was also conducted during the month. Gramasangams continued to do useful work. One sangam has taken steps to construct a new building for housing a local District Board School at a cost of Rs. 10,000. The foundation stone for the same was laid by the Collector. Two gentlemen have donated lands to the extent of 1¾ acres for the purpose. Another sangam has formed a new road of about half a mile. This sangam has also repaired the streets. Yet another sangam has formed a street to a distance of half a mile. It has dug pits to drain out rain water. It has also repaired a well. One of the sangams has formed a new road. It has also repaired a Harijan well and purchased a radio set at a cost of Rs. 1,100. The formation of a road measuring three furlongs is an achievement of another sangam which has also purchased a radio set at a cost of Rs. 800.

Trichinopoly.—One cane jaggery making co-operative society was organized and licences for tapping toddy were sanctioned for 11 members. In Musiri taluk three Gramasangams were formed. The first Rural Uplift School for Trichinopoly started on 26th January at Musiri. There was a chadugudu tournament in one of the villages, in which Gramasangams took an enthusiastic part. Some of the players were ex-addicts. Twenty-one teams competed on the whole. During the latter part of January, a milk supply co-operative society was started and licences were issued to 13 members of the society for tapping sweet juice from palmyrah.

Cuddapah.—Firka tournaments were conducted during the month and an interesting harikatha entitled 'Bhakta Kuchela' was performed by the ballad singer.

Anantapur.—It was resolved by the villagers in one place to organize a hand-spinning industry and to install a public radio.

Salem.—A volley-ball court was opened at Puduchatram. Talks on prohibition, thrift, adult education, reading rooms and libraries were made on the occasion. A public meeting of the members of the Land Colonization Co-operative Society was held during January. The Assistant Development Officer talked on improved methods of agriculture, village sanitation, cottage industry, etc.

Tanjore.—Thrift day was celebrated in one village in Mayavaram taluk and 24 hundi boxes were distributed to those including ex-addicts. A free reading room was opened during January in Mayavaram taluk. Two palmyrah jaggery manufacturing societies, a coir rope manufacturing society and a milk supply co-operative society have been organized.

Madura.—Three Gramasangams in Palni taluk and four co-operative jaggery societies in Dindigul taluk and two co-operative milk supply societies in Periakulam taluk were formed during January. In all there are now six jaggery manufacturing societies for ex-tappers and they are expected to provide employment for about 500 ex-tappers. Two Gramasangams in Palni have engaged sweepers to clean the streets and one Gramasangam has planted 50 trees on road margins to provide shade. Longstanding disputes in two villages in Madura taluk were settled by two Gramasangams.

Guntur.—One of the Village Uplift sangams in Guntur taluk has got a reading room constructed and opened. In connection with the opening ceremony inter-village tournaments were conducted as well as Burrakathus and katha kalakshepams.

Delhi Notes

Overseas Scholarships

It is the policy of the Government of India to give every possible assistance to the expansion and improvement of facilities for University education in the country, but Government have been advised by the Overseas Scholarships Committee that it is necessary for some time yet to send selected students abroad for advance studies and training.

The whole question of sending scholars to the United Kingdom, the United States of America and other foreign countries for technical training in the present year is still under consideration in the light of the interim report submitted by the Overseas Scholarships Committee which was appointed to examine the Overseas Scholarships Scheme in all its aspects.

Regarding the selection for these [illegible]larships, the Education Minister [illegible] that some scholars were selected by the Provinces and others by the Central Government directly according to whether they are intended to serve a Provincial Government or the Central Government on their return.

* * *

Scholarships to Scheduled Caste students

The Government of India will award during 1948–49 scholarships to students of the Scheduled Castes of the Dominion of India who wish to pursue their studies in scientific, technological and some of the professional subjects, beyond the Matriculation stage. The scholarships are tenable in India only. The amounts awarded will include tuition fees and maintenance charges admissible under the rules, excepting the courses of shorthand and telegraphy for which short period stipends of small value will be awarded. The courses for which awards will be available are : [illegible] Intermediate in Science, (2) B.Sc., (3) M.Sc., (4) Engineering, (5) Technology, (6) Medicine (7) Agriculture, (8) Teacher's Training (9) M.Ed. after obtaining B.T. degree (10) Commerce, (11) Geography (Hons. and Post graduate courses), (12) Telegraphy, and (13) Shorthand and Typewriting.

Women students offering Arts subjects in the Intermediate, Graduate and Post-graduate courses will be eligible for the award of scholarships, provided they give an undertaking that they will pursue a Teachers' Training Course at the end of their approved course of study.

Application for scholarships should be submitted in the prescribed form through the Head of the Institution of which the applicant is or was a student and should reach the Secretary, Scheduled Castes Scholarships Board, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi-3, not later than April 30, 1948.

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Refu[illegible]l

A fortni[illegible] [illegible]ntitled "Reli[illegible] [illegible]nded

to represent the cause of refugees as well as to give information as to the steps taken by Government to help them, has been issued by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, Government of India.

The Journal which is being published in English, Hindi and Punjabi is for free distribution among refugees all over India, particularly those in camps in East Punjab and Kurukshetra.

The publication will serve as a link between the Government and the displaced community, and as a vehicle for the exchange of information between the two. In this the refugees will have a scope for making known their special requirements and the Government for indicating what is being done for meeting them. The publication is thus expected to render a much needed service.

* * *

Mass Education to be speeded up

The All-India Educational Conference which concluded its three-day session on Sunday, January 18, 1948 made far-reaching decisions on different aspects of education. The most important item considered by the conference was the modifications necessary in the plan of educational development set out in the Central Advisory Board of Education's report, popularly known as the Sargent Report, in the light of experience gained since the report was published in 1944. Provincial Ministers of Education, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Directors of Public Instruction and other eminent educationists present in the conference were all agreed that the period required to complete the work of mass education must be substantially reduced from the period of 40 years envisaged in the Sargent Report. As suggested in the report, the conference agreed that eight years should be the period of compulsory basic education but in view of the practical difficulties in the way of introducing it immediately, this period might be reduced during the first stage though in no case should it be reduced to less than five years. The conference resolved that simultaneously, to supplement further education, a comprehensive scheme of Adult Education (through libraries, open air thre[illegible] radio, films, etc.) should be p[illegible]ion immediately; tha[illegible] years conditions [illegible] in basic schools would be relaxed; the work of full-time workers might be supplemented by part-time workers and skilled artisans; and the double shift system should be introduced to economise on buildings.

The conference also endorsed the recommendation of the Central Advisory Board of Education for appointing a small committee of educationists and others concerned with education administration to consider the question of finance required to implement the basic educational plan including the question of Central grants, educational cess and educational loans.

The conference recommended the establishment of a Central Institute of Adult Education for training personnel for administration, supervision and field work and suggested that such a body should give a lead to provincial and State Governments, local authorities and voluntary agencies. It also recommended the establishment of a Central Co-operative Library. The recommendations of the Central Advisory Board urging the appointment of a committee to consider the means of financing education at all stages and the appointment of a Commission for Secondary Education were endorsed by the conference.

There was a prolonged debate in the conference about the medium of instruction.

The conference urged the paramount need for research in all branches of learning and recommended that the Government of India should do all in its power to encourage the universities and research institutions to undertake research.

* * *

Three-year Drive for Literacy

The Central Advisory Board of Education has adopted the interim report of the Adult Education Committee appointed on the opening day of its Session which recommends the launching of a three-year programme for literacy and general education. The report says that both literacy and general education should proceed simultaneously but during the next three years greater emphasis should be laid on the latter aspect of adult education with a view to enable every Indian to take part in the New Order. Efforts should also be made, the report says, to raise the percentage of literacy to 50 at least. The report further recommends that all the resources and personnel of the country should be mobilized for the attainment of these objectives and suggests employment of whole-time workers, part-time workers and volunteers. The report says that part-time workers should be village school teachers, Postmasters and other civil servants who may be given a small honorarium for their services and voluntary workers should be recruited from amongst students and staff of schools and colleges; Government employees, district officials, etc. It also recommends that all owners of mills and factories should provide for the education of their workers and their families and the Government should make it compulsory for all its employees to attain literacy within a period of three years and it should give them facilities for this purpose. Adult education should also be compulsorily provided for all prisoners in jails.

* * *

River Projects to be speeded up

The Central Board of Irrigation in a resolution reiterates the necessity of undertaking early surveys of the potential water resources of all catchments and has commended the action recently taken in this respect by the Government of Bombay. The Board has put forward suggestions for co-ordinating such activities of all provincial and state administrations in India.

The Board has decided to establish a close liaison with the activities of the newly formed Indian Standards Institution and has decided to co-operate with this body in preparing and publishing standards of interest to the engineering profession.

The Board has also recommended the undertaking of electrical reserach in main hydraulic research laboratories in India and has decided to establish close liaison with various instiutions already engaged in this work.

The Board has called for the appointment of a Committee to review existing legislation and propose measures necessary to overcome the present difficulties created by demands for realignment of power transmission lines [illegible] erection.

Indian News Digest

Training Labour Welfare Workers in Bombay

In pursuance of the proposal of the Director of Labour Welfare, the Government of Bombay has constituted an Advisory Board for the School for Training of Labour Welfare Workers in Bombay.

The Board will advise on all matters pertaining to the training of Labour Welfare Workers.

The Board will also co-opt one representative of the Social Service League, Bombay.

* * *

Fruit Cultivation Scheme in Bombay

A scheme for the extension and organization of fruit cultivation in suitable tracts of the Province, at an estimated cost of Rs. 6,43,625, spread over a period of five years has been sanctioned by the Government of Bombay, with immediate effect. As a result, central fruit nurseries will be established.

* * *

Model Village in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have awarded the Sir Frederick Sykes Village Improvement Shield for the Southern Division to Kelaginore in the Honavar taluka of Kanara district for its achievement during the year 1946.

With its population of 1,690 drawn mainly from the agriculturist class, 338 dwelling houses and 285 tenants, the village had been selected under model village scheme in 1941. The village established the first better farming society in the district 1943. Since then, th improvement programme has been intensified and Kelaginore today boasts all the features of a model village.

The reclamation of marshy lands, improvement in housing conditions, construction of roads and wells and other reforms have been introduced the villagers in a spirit of co-opera- and mutual aid. The village has also improved soil fertility, introduced vegetable cultivation, bee-keeping, irrigation, and use of improved implements. A school building was constructed and the co-operative society started a library also. It has been supplying loans and advances to the villagers besides running a fair-price shop.

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Harijan Uplift in East Punjab

The East Punjab Government is considering a Rs. 5-lakh plan to rehabilitate Harijans.

* * *

Ban lifted in U.P.

In pursuance of their policy of encouraging cottage industry in United Provinces, the Provincial Government have decided to remove the ban on the export of hand-made paper outside this Province. Hand-made paper is accordingly being excluded from the provisions of the United Provinces Paper (Movement) Control Order, 1945, and in future no permit will be required for its export outside the Province.

* * *

Expenditure on Adult Literacy in C.P.

The Provincial Government are reported to have prepared a scheme of Adult Education which will involve an expenditure of over one crore of rupees in five years. In the first year the capital expenditure is estimated at Rs. 11,54,000 and recurring Rs. 20,45,000. In the subsequent years the capital expenditure has been estimated at Rs. 76,000 and recurring at Rs. 20,45,000. Besides regular teaching schools, the scheme also includes cinemas, wireless, music, pamphlets, etc.

* * *

Department for Crop Physiology

The U.P. Government, it is learnt, have decided to create a new department, for a period of two years, to work on crop physiology of wheat, sugarcane and potato etc.

The department, which will function under the guidance of Dr. V. N. Singh, formerly Director of Agriculture, Research Institute, Benares University, will deal with the problem connected with crop diseases, increase of yield and improvement of manure. The department will also undertake research on mangoes.

* * *

Reward for Village Improvement Work

The Government of Bombay has awarded prizes of Rs. 100 each to the villages of Karambal, Sulibhavi, Konnur, Belamber and Phurus in the Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwar, Kanara and Ratnagiri districts, respectively, in recognition of the best village improvement work done by them during 1946.

* * *

Cottage Industries in U.P.

The U.P. Government has decided to create a separate directorate with a full-time Director to supervise and control the development of cottage and small-scale industries. The existing Director of Industries will limit his attention to large-scale industries. It is also proposed to spend a sum of Rs. 2½ crores, double that of the previous year, in 1948-49 for an all-out drive to develop the cottage industries. These industries occupy an important place in U.P. and by their systematic development the per capita income and employment in the province are expected to increase.

* * *

Industrial Development in U.P.

The Industrial Adviser to U.P. Government has prepared a scheme for the industrial development of the Province. Cement factories will be started in a few places. A newsprint factory would be located in Dehra Dun area. The setting-up of these factories primarily depends on the availability of machinery from abroad. The other two conditions are the supply of technicians a[illegible] cheap electric energy. With t[illegible]lopment of the Rhind sche[illegible]ected that about 4 lakh [illegible]ilable per annum

Other Provinces—Their Plans and Programmes

Industrial Development in Bihar

The Provincial Development Board recently decided to set up an Industrial Development and Financial Corporation to guide and finance industrial development schemes in Bihar. The Corporation will start with a capital of atleast five crores, in which the Government will have a controlling interest of at least 51 per cent of the shares. The Corporation will examine any industrial scheme which may be put forward either by the Government or by private capitalists or jointly by both and will decide upon the feasibility of the same in the light of expert opinion, after which it may undertake either to finance such schemes wholly or to advise the Government to float loans, if its own resources are insufficient for the purpose.

A committee has been set up to draft a constitution in consultation with the Bihar Government and leading businessmen and to submit the same to the Development Board within three months.

The Provincial Development Board has also decided that lac, mica, superphosphate, urea, formalin, aluminium and machine tool industry are to be owned and managed by the Bihar Government, while iron and steel is to be Government of India enterprise. Labour also is to be associated with the management of industry and the Board contemplates having one labour representative on each Industrial Board.

* * *

Provincial Transport Board in Bihar

In order to ensure maximum co-ordination of all forms of transport and elimination of wasteful competition, to co-ordinate the planning and execution of transport development and to consider the major important problems that may arise from time to time, the Provincial Government, in supersession of their previous resolution, have constituted a Provincial Transport Board.

It shall remain in touch with the existing Provi[illegible]al Road Development Committee, [illegible] have power to create S[illegible] of its own memb[illegible] [illegible]thorized to correspond direct with the Central Board of Transport or Transport Boards of other Provinces.

* * *

Aboriginal Welfare Work in Bihar

The Government of Bihar have prepared a two-year scheme for the uplift of aboriginals in the five districts of Chotanagpur and in the district of Santal Parganas. It is proposed to entrust the Adimjati Seva Mandal, Ranchi, with the execution of the scheme in the Chotanagpur districts and the Santal Paharia Seva Mandal in the district of Santal Parganas.

The scheme envisages the construction and maintenance of hostels for aboriginal boys and girls and provision of free boarding to 20 per cent of students, free lodging, free lighting and furniture. The eight hostels will accommodate 500 students. Hostels are proposed to be constructed at Gumla, Chaibasa, Peterbar (Hazaribagh), Dumka, Simdega and Lakhanpur, one hundred and nine primary schools are proposed to be built in the non-Christian areas, which are particularly backward, in Chotanagpur and Santal Parganas. Provision is made for awarding stipends to 250 girl students at the primary stage.

* * *

Communalism in Educational Institutions in Bombay

In consonance with the general policy of the Government to eradicate communalism in every sphere of life, the Government has decided not to support from public funds or permit communalism in any educational institutions. In future, therefore, no grant-in-aid will be given by the Government to new communal institutions and local bodies will be asked to fall in line with this policy.

As regards the existing institutions, it has been decided that those institutions which are not, or cannot be, thrown open to all communities shall not be eligible for grants from the public funds.

In making the Government grants, the Government would also desire to ensure that the facilities and resources of educational institutions are not made available for the purposes of communal organizations and the youth at such educational institutions should not be brought up in communalism. In the opinion of the Government, the Scout Movement, the projected National Cadet Corps, the U.O.T.C., the Home Guards and other similar non-communal institutions afford the fullest opportunities to the youth of all ages for physical training, discipline and social service.

* * *

Uplift of Backward Classes in U.P.

The Government of the United Provinces are devoting their special attention to the question of the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.

Government consider that in the face of the existing prejudices and poverty mere enactment of the Legislative measures and issue of orders will fail their object unless implemented by an official organization under strong central direction. Government have, therefore, decided to set up the following organization for the improvement and uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes of this Province :—

(1) *Provincial Board at the headquarters.*

(2) *A Harijan Sahayak Department.*

(3) *District Organizations.*

Government will place a fund of Rs. 1,000 at the disposal of each district association exclusively for propaganda purposes.

The Harijan Sahayak Department will have a district organization under a District Harijan Officer and sanction has been given by Government to the creation of the post of a District Harijan Officer in the scale of Rs. 120—6—18—200 in each district in the Province (besides a clerk and a team) to be filled from persons employed in the Rural Development or Co-operative Department. It shall be the duty of the District Harijan Officer to see that provisions of the U.P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act are implemented and the day-to-day grievances of the Scheduled Castes are brought to the notice of the district authorities [illegible] redressed.

Welfare of Backward Tribes in C.P.

Explaining the Provincial Government's policy regarding the welfare of backward tribes, the Minister in charge of the Backward Tribes portfolio, said at a Press conference recently: "The move taken by the Provincial Government for the amelioration of the conditions of these tribes was only with a humanitarian point of view. It was a policy of gradual and slow assimilation with the people of this Province and not segregation". According to Government plan, the Province was divided into ten zones, each zone placed in charge of an organiser who co-ordinated the uplift work on all sides—educational, economic and medical relief. Multi-purpose co-operative societies, numbering about 25, have been established in the zones to each of which the Government have sanctioned an interest-free loan of Rs. 500 repayable in two years. The Government have a plan of constructing four wells, and four approach roads in each zone every year. A van has now been placed at the disposal of the department concerned to carry on the work of propaganda and publicity in the areas.

Visual Education in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have appointed, for a period of two years, an Advisory Board for visual education to advise it on the planning and development of Visual Education in all its aspects, and in particular, on the production of educational films and other aids to Visual Education. The Board also will tender advice on the special requirements for Adult Education including education of labour and on the co-ordination in the field of Visual Education and propaganda, of branches relating to health, agriculture and reconstruction generally.

Books and Publications

["GANDHIAN INSTITUTION OF WARDHA" By R. V. RAO; Published by Thackers and Co., Bombay; Price Rs. 2-8-0; Pages 48.]

In the light of the tragic death of Mahatma Gandhi, the book under review acquires particular significance at this time. It deals with those institutions established by the Mahatma on lines conceived by himself and intended to execute some of the important items of the constructive programme evolved by him. Among these institutions are the Hindustan Talmi Sangh, The All-India Village Industries Association, The Gandhi Seva Sangh, the All-India Spinners' Association, The Goswa Sangh and others with their headquarters at Wardha and working through the agency of local branches. These different institutions carry on their activity on the principle of decentralized economy and control and have the resuscitation of the village and its restoration to its proper place in the scheme of things as their objective. The nerve centre of these different organizations is or rather was—the Savagram Ashram, which was Gandhiji's place of residence and from which he directed their activities. The author describes in detail their structure and working and how Gandhiji used them as agencies for attaining the objectives he had in mind.

It has been said above that the book acquires special significance in the light of Gandhiji's death, for the work of seeing to it that life-work and [illegible] imperishable now [illegible] these [illegible] written a useful and interesting book and one may cordially agree with the statement of Mr. J. C. Kumarappa in his introductory note that "those who wish to get a glimpse of Gandhiji will get what they want by perusing this handy volume".

C.V.H.

> **TOPICAL PAMPHLETS**
>
> Numerous letters are being received from the public for the supply of copies of the topical pamphlets published by the Department of Information and Publicity. These pamphlets are distributed through Collectors and those who would like to have them are requested to apply to the Collector of the district or to the nearest Revenue Officer specifying the title and language of the pamphlets required.

[HANDBOOK OF ASIAN STATISTICS By Mr. T. O. CHERIAN; Published by the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi; Price Rs. 4; Sole Distributors: Padma Publications, Bombay.]

This is a handbook of statistics as the title indicates relating to countries in Asia. The book seems to be new in its conception and looks to be the first of its kind. The importance of statistics in planning advances in almost every field of activity is now widely recognized. Statistics [illegible] enables an observer to diagnose the state of affairs in a particular sphere during a given period. They also enable observers to discover remedies for particular maladies. Hence it is that in all advanced countries collection and consolidation of statistics constitute an important duty of the State in the present day.

Asian countries are generally backward and as the author observes complete statistics are not forthcoming in not a few cases. It is therefore especially important that countries in Asia should devote special attention to this aspect of nation-building work. This is an essential preliminary to planning in any sphere of activity. The statistics in the book are classified under various heads. There are not less than 18 heads under which statistics are furnished and the number of countries included vary under each table. An explanatory introduction is also provided in the book. These statistics will certainly serve as 'eye openers' and will be particularly useful to administrators, publicists, social workers and similar other classes of people engaged in promoting commonweal.

One point however may be mentioned. If comparative statistics of the more advanced countries in the West were also given, it would have helped the reader to get an idea as to the degree of backwardness of the Asian countries in relation to others in the West. Such comparisons with more advanced countries are necessary to decide upon the plan, the tempo of progress and the target aimed at in each sphere of activity. The book however [illegible] need. In the nature of its [illegible] such publications [illegible] order [illegible]

[BOMBAY MONEY LENDERS ACT By TRUMBAKLAL KUSHALJI B.A., LL.B., Pleader. Published by Chandrakant Chimanlal Vora, Law Publishers and Law Book-sellers, Ganddhi Road, Ahmedabad—Price Rs. 2-4-0.]

Money-lenders, as a class, are very unpopular in this country, and they are indicted all round and are made to shoulder the burden to a large extent of the poverty of the rural masses. In the recent past, there was a greater realization of the sinister role of the money-lender in Indian economy and there are evidences all over the country on the part of various Governments to check the evil from money-lenders. The number of money-lenders in the various Provinces varies perhaps according to the economic condition of the area. In Punjab, for example, it is stated that one in every 100 is a money-lender while in the rest of India the corresponding figure is one in every 300 or 400. Of late, there have been well-meant attempts to keep down the money-lenders and the Money Lenders Act of the Bombay Government is one such attempt. The Act is expected to go a long way in rescuing the needy classes from the clutches of the money-lenders. Of course, no Government can legislate a class of people into honesty or fairness. Much depends upon developing the right outlook and the earlier money-lenders do this the better for them as well as for the country.

T.K.G.

Railway Traffic Statistics

South Indian Railway

The details of public train miles for January 1948, as compared with January 1947, are as follows:—

Public train miles.	*January* 1947.	*January* 1948.
Coaching	725,218	880,653
Goods	247,613	268,141
Total ..	972,861	1,148,794

The details of traffic both coaching and goods carried during the month of January 1948 as compared with the corresponding month of last year and the previous month are given below:

	January 1947.	*January* 1948.	*December* 1947.
Coaching traffic—			
Number of passengers ..	10,927,220	12,219,569	13,174,129
Earnings	Rs. 68,81,413	75,11,396	70,93,100
Goods traffic—			
Weight in tons	498,740	567,800	508,666
Earnings	Rs. 49,34,651	51,75,692	46,08,105

The increase in coaching earnings compared to the previous year is due to the introduction of additional trains and increase in fares. The increase in passenger earnings in January 1948, as compared with December 1947, in spite of the fall in the number of passengers is due to increase in fares, from 1st January 1948.

M. & S.M. Railway

The following are the figures of approximate earnings and volumes of passenger and goods traffic during January 1948 compared with January 1947.

Earnings.	*January.* 1947. RS.	*January.* 1948. RS.
Coaching ..	69,58,000	73,08,000
Goods ..	71,37,000	73,01,000
Miscellaneous.	2,52,000	2,33,000
Volume of traffic.		
Number of passengers.	6,845,000	6,885,000
Goods traffic (tons).	487,000	418,000

There has been an increase in the earnings both under Coaching and Goods due principally to enhanced rates.

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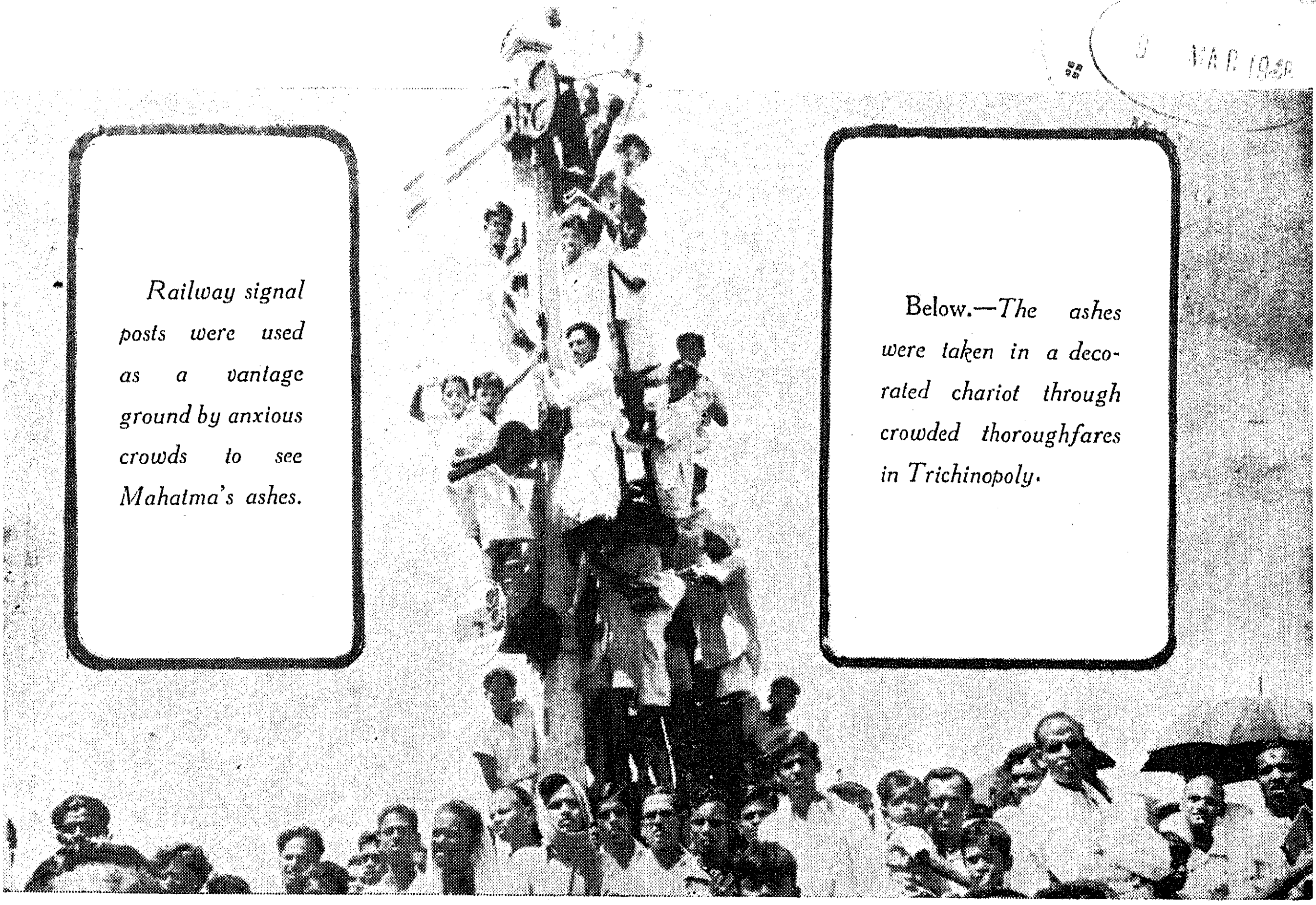

Railway signal posts were used as a vantage ground by anxious crowds to see Mahatma's ashes.

Below.—*The ashes were taken in a decorated chariot through crowded thoroughfares in Trichinopoly.*

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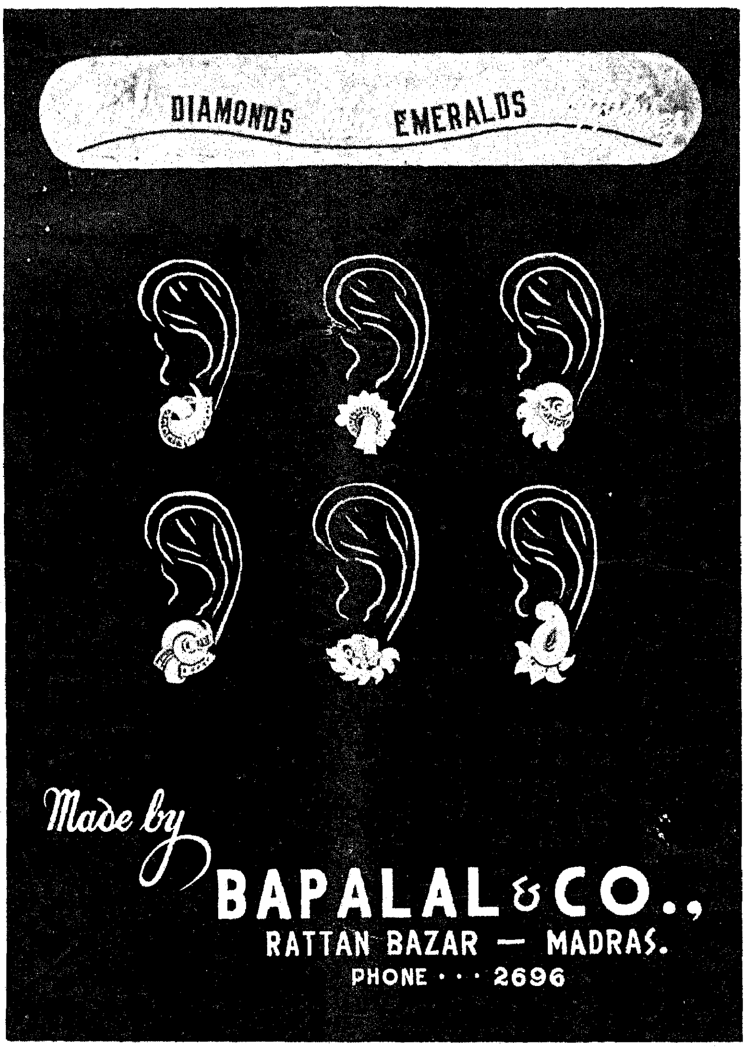

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